VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
MAGAZINE
December
1984

VFW National Home: Our Sacred Trust

VFW Magazine
406 West 34th
Kansas City, Mo. 64111
Address Correction requested

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
St. Paul, MN
Permit No. 356

VFW
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
MAGAZINE
Official Publication of the
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
Published Monthly
Except July

VFW MAGAZINE
EDITORIAL OFFICE
Address all communications for publication to The Editor, VFW Magazine, Broadway at 34th Street, Kansas City, Mo. 64111.

VFW OBJECTIVES
- TO INSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength.
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.

STAFF
Publisher & Director of Publications
John L. Smith
Director of Public Relations
Wade LaDue
Editor
James K. Anderson
Associate Editor
Warren C. Maus
Production & Design
Steve Keetle
Circulation Manager
Joe L. Ridgley

ADVERTISING DIRECTORS
PABCO REPRESENTATIVES, 9 E. 41st St., New York, N.Y. 10017;
Advertising Representative:
PABCO REPRESENTATIVES, 405 N. Wabash, Suite 2108, Chicago, Illinois 60601

Copyright, 1984, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Unsolicited manuscripts must be accompanied by return postage and no responsibility is assumed for safe handling.

POSTMASTER: Forward Form 3575 to Circulation Department, VFW Magazine, Broadway at 34th Street, Kansas City, Mo. 64111.

NON-MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS
U.S., and its possessions, $4.00 per year, 40 cents per copy. For subscription in other countries, $10.00 per year.

Payment of membership dues includes $1 for a year's subscription to VFW Magazine.

VFW Magazine is available in microfilm. Write: University Microfilms, 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Forward address changes to Circulation Department, VFW Magazine, Broadway at 34th Street, Kansas City, Mo. 64111. Be sure to furnish your old address, also your Post number, when requesting change to new address. To insure accuracy, please clip and enclose your present address as it is stenciled on a recent copy of VFW Magazine.

ABC 454
MEMBER AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATION

(ISSN 0161-8598)

December 1984 Vol. 72 No. 4

FEATURES

VFW NATIONAL SECURITY GOALS, 1984-85 10

VFW LEGISLATIVE GOALS, 1984-85 12

TIGERS IN WAR; BUILDERS IN PEACE. Charles P. Clarke. The Seabees' story is one of devotion to their mission and country. 14

AN UNFORGETTABLE CHRISTMAS: VIETNAM, 1970. Joan M. Maiman. Gifts for GIs, Vietnamese orphans created a brief period of "Peace on Earth." 18

PATTON'S PRAYER. Patrick R. Moran. General's appeal to God to end rains may have helped turn tide during Battle of Bulge. 21

CHRISTMAS REUNION 40 YEARS LATER. Joe Curreri. An ex-GI visits Dutch Underground fighter who saved him in 1944. 24

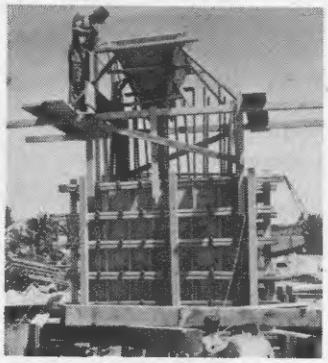
AIDING VIETNAM VETERANS SATISFYING. Donald Hunt. Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron joins in honoring Vietnam veteran who aids his former comrades-in-arms. 26

HORSEBACK RIDING IS VETS' THERAPY. New program launched at Perry Point, Md., VAMC. 28

VETERANS MEMORIAL WAS COMMUNITY EFFORT. Donna McGuyer. Town pitches in to pay tribute to those who served. 37

CHER AMI. Walter Harter. A carrier pigeon saved the Lost Battalion in World War I, became national hero. 39

HOCKEY IN THE AIR. Pictures of awards ceremony ending 1983-84 season in Minnesota. Department now into 30th year of sponsoring this youth activity. 41



◀14

21

REGULARS

COMMAND POST-60 Years of Caring Is Record of VFW National Home	5	**MEMBERSHIP**	33
WASHINGTON WIRE	6	**RECENT BOOKS**	36
MAIL CALL	8	**NATIONAL HOME**	38
GENERAL ORDERS	8	**CLAIMS**	43
VFW IN ACTION	29	**REUNIONS**	45
		JEST-A-MINUTE	48

COVER-The VFW National Home Seals, which provide a large part of the funds used to provide for the "VFW's children" at the Eaton Rapids, Mich., facility, and pictures of the Home's Christmas activities highlight this month's cover. VFW Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron reviews the Home's record of 60 years of caring for the children and urges in his Command Post column that VFW members send in their Seals donations.

VFW NATIONAL HOME: 60 Years of Caring

By Billy Ray Cameron
VFW Commander-in-Chief

APPROPRIATELY, the cover on this month's issue of the VFW Magazine highlights our children at the VFW National Home at Eaton Rapids, Mich., at Christmas and National Home Seals, which provide a large portion of the money needed to care for the children and to maintain the VFW's unique child-care facility.

Calling the juvenile residents at the Home "our children" emphasizes the responsibility all of us in the VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary feel for the well-being, education and healthy development of these young persons. At every VFW function, we are reminded of this when the Chaplain remembers in his prayers the children at the VFW National Home.

Each of us is asked every year to contribute to the Home by sending in a financial donation for the Home Seals which we are sent in the fall, well before the Christmas season.

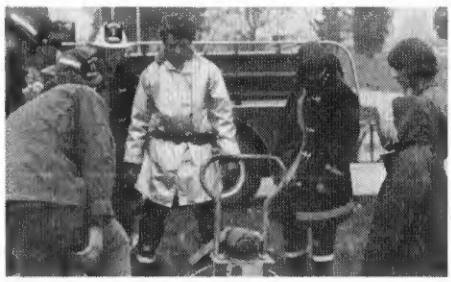
This year, Dr. John Wasylik, President of the Home's Board of Trustees and a Past Commander-in-Chief, noted in his appeal the progress being made at the Home in improving programs and facilities. In my message, I suggested that your gift for the Home Seals may be the most important contribution of all because it is a personal offering from an individual VFW or Ladies Auxiliary member. It represents something of yourself.

The VFW's achievement in maintaining the National Home for, believe it or not, 60 years come next Jan. 7 is one of the greatest success stories that can be recorded about our organization. Simply maintaining the Home, keeping it in operation for all these years, in itself is not especially noteworthy, however. What is remarkable is the manner in which it has been done, the splendid record made in adult life by the boys and girls who have been nurtured by the Home and the high regard in which it is held by professionals in the child-care field.

All of us remember well the poignant appearance made at the VFW National Convention by Melissa Stark, the 9-year-old 1985 Buddy Poppy Girl and National Home resident. She accompanied Dr. Wasylik, who told the delegates the Home "has made great progress in the past five years" and expressed confidence in the Home's future.

Melissa Stark, 9, is the new Buddy Poppy Girl. She lives at the National Home.

Appearing with them was Dr. Theodore Wilson, the Home's Executive Director, who pledged, "We are going to do our best to bring out the best in our children. We believe we can make a difference in the lives of our young people and we are successful."



National Home firefighters, all residents, practice their skills.

Eight National Home residents bicycled 400 miles to Chicago from Eaton Rapids for the Convention, accompanied by two adults. Before embarking, they had traveled 8,000 practice miles. On the way, they camped out at night and were welcomed by VFW Posts along the route.

Dr. Wilson added that "there is no question that we have problems to solve at the Home, but they are no different from those every family or neighborhood experiences."

The year 1985 will mark the 60th anniversary of the VFW National Home. The Jan. 7 date is considered its foundation because on that day in 1925 it became a reality when its articles of incorporation were recorded.

For several years, the Home had been a dream of the VFW, initiated actually at the 1923 convention of the Military Order of the Cootie, which ever since has done so much for the

continued on page 42

WASHINGTON WIRE
VETSGRAM

LEGISLATIVE

Vets' bills passed: Before the 98th Congress adjourned, three veterans' bills were cleared by Congress for the President's signature.

The Veterans Benefits Improvement Act of 1984 (H.R. 5688) now PL 98-543, increases compensation, aid and attendance, housebound, dependents and clothing allowance, and DIC by 3.2% effective Dec. 1, 1984; grants a 10% cost-of-living increase for veterans studying under the GI Bill, effective Oct. 1, 1984; and establishes a four-year pilot program of vocational rehabilitation for younger veterans who apply for VA pension after Feb. 1, 1985.

Veterans under 50 will be required to undergo a vocational training evaluation. Older veterans will be permitted to apply for vocational training under this program. PL 98-543 also establishes a four-year trial work period program for veterans obtaining individual unemployability ratings on or after Feb. 1, 1985. They will be required to participate in a vocational rehabilitation evaluation to determine whether achievement of a vocational role is reasonably feasible. Veterans currently paid at the 100% rate for individual unemployability may take advantage of the program.

Other provisions of PL 98-543 will increase from $32,500 to $35,500 the allowance for specially adapted housing for severely disabled veterans; increase from $4,400 to $5,000 the automotive-adaptive equipment grant for severely disabled veteran; extend veterans readjust,ent appointments in Civil Service two years until Sept. 30, 1986, increase the highest grade in which appointments may be made to GS-9 and authorize limited appeal rights; extend for six months, until Sept. 1, 1985, the date veterans must begin training under the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act, PL 98-77, and extend the date by which veterans must make application for training for three months until Feb. 23, 1985; and increase Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) from $35,000 to $50,000 for those on active duty five years or more. President Reagan signed the bill Oct. 24.

The Veterans' Dioxin and Radiation Exposure Compensation Standards Act, now PL 98-542, will provide, effective Oct. 1, 1984, disability or death payment to certain Vietnam veterans or their dependents who have either chloracne or a liver condition, prophyria cutanea tarda (PCT), which became manifest within one year after departure from Vietnam. Benefits will not be payable after Sept. 30, 1986, unless the VA Administrator prescribes regulations for continuation on a permanent basis. PL 98-542 will require the VA Administrator to utilize a formal rule-making procedure to issue guidelines for processing and deciding claims for benefits based on exposure to dioxin during military service in Vietnam and exposure to ionizing radiation as a result of the occupation of Hiroshima or Nagasaki or due to participation in atmospheric nuclear testing. It also will require the Administrator to make determinations on whether service-connection shall be granted for chloracne, PCT, and soft-tissue sarcoma based on dioxin exposure, leukemia, polycythemia vera, and various malignancies based on exposure to ionizing radiation. The results shall be included in regulations and published in the Federal Register for public scrutiny before the final regulations are issued. The Department of Defense and the Defense Nuclear Agency will be required to issue guidelines for the preparation of radiation dose estimates in connection with VA claims. A Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards and an associated Scientific Council comprised of two panels, one responsible for dioxin-related matters and the other for radiation, will be created. The panels will make recommendations as to what additional diseases should be considered for compensation purposes. The VA Administrator will then be required to issue regulations as set forth already. President Reagan signed the bill Oct. 24.

The Veterans' Health Care Act of 1984, (H.R. 5618), now PL 98-528, will direct the VA Administrator to prescribe regulations governing the conduct and authority of VA police officers. Scope and duration of their training and for the carrying and use of firearms will be included. Authority to adjust their salaries and reimburse them for uniform expenditures of up to $200 a year or an amount of up to $400 on a one-time basis. PL 98-528 will extend until Sept. 30, 1985, the VA authority to provide hospital and medical care to eligible veterans who are residents of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Another provision will authorize money for the Geriatric Research, Educational Clinical Centers (GRECCs) program through fiscal year 1985 and subsequent fiscal years.

Other provisions will authorize states to acquire existing facilities for state veterans' homes under the VA Matching Grant Program; direct the VA Administrator to coordinate the provision of VA benefits and services to veterans seeking VA health care with appropriate programs conducted by state and local governmental agencies and by private entities with a special emphasis on veterans 65 and older; permit the VA Administrator to furnish telecaptioning television decoders to profoundly deaf veterans; and permit the Chief Medical Director (CMD) to designate special programs for the treatment of Post-Traumatic-Stress Disorders (PTSD). A special committee on PTSD will be established and the CMD directed to establish and operate a national center on PTSD to carry out and promote research and the training of health-care and related personnel in the causes, diagnosis and treatment of veterans.

SECURITY

Kremlin Up To Old Tricks: When Soviet Premier Konstantin Chernenko granted an interview recently to Russian-speaking Washington Post Moscow correspondent Dusko Doder, he was using an old ploy that served Leonid Brezhnev well.

Chernenko lobbed his appeal over the Presidential candidates and directly to the American people. Besides blaming the U.S. for increased tension between the two superpowers, Chernenko intended to encourage and to increase domestic pressure on President Reagan to accept Soviet terms to get arms control negotiations started again.

This was the same tactic the Soviets used in Western Europe in the early 1980s. They mounted a psychological campaign that fed on European fears of nuclear war and was aimed directly at the citizenry. Chernenko's use of the same tactics as Brezhnev's shows the Soviets are no more sincere now than they were five years ago.

Nor in its rapid leadership changes has the Kremlin been able to adjust its old policies to new realities. A Chernenko sincerely desirous of arms negotiations would have submitted his views directly to U.S. Ambassador Arthur Hoetmann in Moscow. Instead, he further clouded the situation by linking resumption of arms talks to U.S. fulfillment of Soviet preconditions.

* * *

Shultz's Words of Wisdom: In a recent speech, Secretary of State George Shultz warned that the "absence of a consistent, coherent American strategy can only play to the advantage of the Soviet Union."

Shultz advised that the U.S. "must remain strong and ready to confront Soviet challenges when there are realistic prospects for success," but the U.S. must have a clear sense of what it wants to achieve. This country, he said, "seeks an international environment that enhances the freedom, security and prosperity of our people, our allies and friends."

To pursue these goals, he continued, the U.S. will have to persuade the Soviets there will be no rewards for aggression and the U.S. has no aggressive intentions. Further, that this country is ready and willing at all times to discuss and negotiate, but "occasional disappointments are part of the long-term process and we should move on when and where the conditions are ripe for progress."

Continuing: "Some argue that if you cannot trust the Soviets, you should not negotiate with them. But the truth is successful negotiations are not based on trust. We do not need to trust the Soviets; we need to make agreements that are trustworthy because both sides have incentives to keep them. Such incentives operate best when there are clear and working means to verify that obligations undertaken are in fact carried out."

SERVICE

Council Okays Training Program: Final approval of the National Veterans Service Training Program for Department Service Officers has been granted by the National Council of Administration.

Phase I was completed Sept. 28 and Phase II is now underway as an on-the-job training program.

The first proficiency conference—Phase III—will be held in Kansas City, Mo., the week of Dec. 3 and all VFW Department Service Officers located at a VA Regional Office and directors of state veterans agencies who designate a staff member to function as a VFW Department Service Officer have been invited.

Workshops, addresses by Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron and VA Administrator Harry N. Walters and a tour of VFW National Headquarters will highlight the sessions.

The second proficiency conference will be held in Washington March 13 to 16, with a format similar to that used during the Kansas City meetings.

* * *

Income Questionnaires: VA beneficiaries who received income questionaire cards early in November are reminded to complete them and mail them to the VA no later than Dec. 31. VFW Service Officers may be contacted for assistance in meeting this deadline.

* * *

VA Personnel Cuts: Resolution 734 attacks the problem posed by the Grace Commission that estimated that 50% of federal employees are paid salaries comparable to the government GS/GM 11-15 grades, while only 26% in the private sector are paid at these rates.

Office of Management and Budget and Office of Personnel Management have come up with a plan to reduce the VA percentage in this category, now 17.5%.

The two agencies have developed a joint four-year program to reduce the number of federal jobs by 2% a year, issued regulations and adjusted federal departments' budget payroll authority to reflect the 2% salary cuts in GS/GM 11-15 grades.

The VFW is working to counteract these moves.

* * *

Border Patrol Seeks Vets: Veterans are being sought as agents by the Border Patrol, of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Eight-hundred positions are now open and legislation being developed and expected to be acted upon in January will add 2,400. Veterans who pass a written examination and have a speaking knowledge of Spanish will be awarded additional points, besides their veterans' preference. Information on these opportunities may be obtained from the INS, Central Office, 425 I Street, Washington, D.C. 20536. This action by the INS is line with VFW Resolution 427 adopted at the 85th National Convention.

Liked Nisei Article

It was pleasing to read the article, "The Nisei: American Soldier," by Vincent T. Tajiri, because it brought back memories of a schoolmate from our community of Upper Merion Township, Pa., who served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Roshino R. Tomino enlisted in the U.S. Army on Dec. 4, 1941, three days before Pearl Harbor. He was a member of the famed 100th Infantry Battalion, which later became the 1st Battalion of the 442nd. Tomino served overseas in Italy and France from April,1944, to May, 1945. He was wounded by German gunfire and was later transferred to the General Hospital at Camp Pickett, Va. His unit received the unofficial appellation of "Purple Heart Battalion."

I have in my possession a newspaper article which states that one amazing fact uncovered about the 442nd was that it has no record of any soldier being AWOL." Also, the article states, "President Roosevelt, upon approving the decision to form the first Nisei unit, had put it this way: 'Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart: Americanism is not and never was a matter of race and ancestry." — *Ed Bybicz, 808 Colbert St., Swedesburg, Pa., 19405.*

Seeks "Mike"

I am trying to locate a Vietnam veteran named Mike who was an MIA. We met at the POW/MIA booth at National Convention in Chicago, but failed to exchange addresses. I don't have his last name or Post number, but do know that he is from Oceanside, Calif. Would Mike please contact me.—*John S. Kristin, POW/MIA Committee, Post 9801, 15615 Avalon, South Holland, Ill., 60473.*

Home Loan Gripe

As a veteran who used VA Home Loan Program 20 years ago, I am perturbed about the current program. It now costs a veteran more to close a home mortgage loan than FHA. The VFW needs to put the heat on Congress to better the VA Home loan program so veterans can afford to purchase.—*Carl K. Benhase, Residential Loan Officer, Post 5749, Loveland, Ohio, 45140.*

GENERAL ORDERS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States

1984-85 Series General Orders No. 3

1.The following appointments are hereby announced:

NATIONAL BAND AND DRUM CORPS COMMITTEE: Members: Diamond Blakeney, Post 3937, Long Beach, Miss. Henry Majewski, Post 300, Chicago, Ill. John Wilson, Post 1669, Royal Oak, Mich.

NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE: Member: James E. Burt, Post 5136, Lexington, Neb.

NATIONAL CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: Vice Chairmen: Sam Fruttoso, Post 1069, Fairfield, Ohio; James H. Kennedy, Post 6690, Mendota, Minn.; Richard L. Kilhefner, Post 3376, Ephrata, Pa.; James L. Mascola, Post 3580, Blue Island, Ill.; Juston M. Morrow, Post 2012, Abilene, Texas; Edwin L. Myers, Post 9814, Fresno, Calf.; Raymond Nowak, Post 2940, West Seneca, N.Y.; Thomas J. Poole, Post 1975, Auburn, N.Y.; Charles Sauer, Post 4290, New Milford, N. J.; Jake Tate, Jr., Post 8977, Danville, Vir.; James H. Willis, Post 534, Joplin, Mo.

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Member: James E. Van Zandt, Post 3, Altoona, Penn.

NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE: Chairman: Howard Silber, Post 181, Omaha, Neb. Vice Chairmen: Dominic Antonelli, Post 8253, W. Hazleton, Pa.; Norman H. Dohn, Post 3477, Athens, Ohio; Stuart Lindman, Post 6690, Mendota, Minn.; Kermit Tarleton, Post 6640, Metairie, La.

NATIONAL ASSISTANT SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS: Carl C. Aiello, Post 864, Brookline, Mass.; Gary Bardin, Post 6651, Wilson, N.C.; Walter Hamilton, Post 7420, San Diego, Calif.; Nicholas Polansky, Post 2083, East Hartford, Conn.; Joseph P. Schirmers, Post 4847, St. Cloud, Minn.; Fred H. VonHinken, Jr., Post 4159, Roscommon, Mich.

NATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE: Members: William F. Cook, Post 9265, Oklahoma City, Okla.; Calvin Vogelsang, Post 3838, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

NATIONAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE: Members: Richard Grenz, Post 1326, Bismarck, N.D.; E.J. McGlothin, Post 81, Portland, Ore.; Albert V. Palumbo, Post 167, Charleroi, Pa.; Bob D. Wagner, Post 4502, Wahoo, Neb.

NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEFS OF STAFF: Sam Roper, Post 4448, Ozark, Ala.; James F. Cook, Post 3935, Port Hueneme, Calif.; James Bonito, Post 1, Denver, Colo.; George H. Barlow, Post 8698, Inglis, Fla.; Bobbie Graziano, Post 6672, Thomson, Ga.; Lawrence V. Augustine, Post 10611, Bad Kreuznach, Germany; Leonard Lover, Post 94, Honolulu, Hawaii; Tug Hanami, Post 3886, Caldwell, Idaho; Dowd J. Brandt, Post 9662, Des Moines, Iowa; Glenn James, Post 4754, Charenton, La.; Lloyd Nicholson, Post 6506, Rosedale, Md.; Howard Thorn, Post 3217, Baltimore, Md.; Robert Metcalf, Post 2569, Falmouth, Mass.; Stanley D. Black, Post 3036, Hattiesburg, Miss.; James E. Straughan, Post 6947, Bismarck, Mo., James D. White, Post 4257, Anderson, Mo.; Dick Brough, Post 497, Havre, Mont.; Charles McBryde, Post 5631, Sanford, N.C.; Bob Herrington, Post 2848, Bay City, Ore.; Alfred E. Sibcy, Post 10216, Sonton-Si, Korea; John Simmons, Post 628, Sioux Falls, S.D.; Lyle Feathers, Post 2108, Johnson City, Tenn.; William H. Berkley, Post 1291, Nashville, Tenn.; Carl Peltier, Post 2059, San Antonio, Texas; James E. Nier, Post 8919, El Paso, Texas; Curtis E. Brown, Post 758, St. Albans, Vt.; Weaver Berkman, Post 3348, Seattle, Wash.; Otis Shehan, Post 3081, Grafton, W. Va.; Eldred Bay, Post 2469, Buffalo, Wyo.

ASSISTANT INSPECTORS GENERAL: J.R. Smith, Post 3492, Fairfield, Ala.; Cedric I. Gould, Post 2563, Yuba City, Calif.; Raymond Perry, Post 3917, Security, Colo.; Howard C. Giles, Post 10167, Holiday, Fla.; J.W. Winkles, Post 2667, Newman, Ga.; Richard E. Austin, Post 10592, Bamberg, Germany; Edward K. Kaopuiki, Post 1540, Honolulu, Hawaii; Hilmer Johnson, Post 889, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Robert Halterman, Post 6400, Norwalk, Iowa; Weldon Talley, Post 6640, Metairie, La.; Roy E. Shifflett, Post 6506, Rosedale, Md.; George Magrath, Post 6712, Revere, Mass.; T.D. Russell, Post 2572, Vicksburg, Miss.; George Schiller, Post 10010, E. Helena, Mont.; Lloyd S. Norris, Post 5631, Sanford, N.C.; Sid Whalen, Post 4248, Portland, Ore.; Jerry D. Goetz, Post 10269, Kadena Air Base, Ryukyu, Islands; Alam Peterson, Post 3876, Cristobal, Canal Zone; Thomas F. Devine, Post 183, Lakewood, R.I.; James F. Samuelson, Post 17, Aberdeen, S.D.; W.R. Wiseman, Post 4577, Pulaski, Tenn.; Roland Verreault, Post 2571, White River Junction, Vt.; Lloyd Mascher, Post 1474, Spokane, Wash.; Scottie E. King, Post 1064, Huntington, W. Va.; James Whipps, Post 991, Casper, Wyo.

NATIONAL AIDE-DE-CAMP, MEDAL OF HONOR CLASS: William Badders, Post 1928, Concord, Calif.

2. Members are reminded that their membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States expires Dec. 31, 1984, unless their 1985 dues are paid and reported to Department and National Headquarters. Every effort should be made to renew the membership of continuous members, and also sign up new and reinstated members prior to Jan. 1, 1985.

3. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to the anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, 1941. Posts should plan programs of suitable observance in commemoration of Pearl Harbor Day. (See VFW Ritual).

continued on page 20

VFW Security Goals, 1984-85

In the face of threats to United States' security worldwide, the VFW National Security and Foreign Affairs Committee drew up these objectives, based on VFW National Convention mandates, as the VFW National Legislative Committee weighed critical veterans' entitlement issues. Legislative Goals are on page 12.

1. Our 1984-85 National Security Program rests upon our firm moral commitment in support of freedom everywhere and opposition to Communism anywhere. We will seize every opportunity which will help insure the President and the Congress recognize this is our moral commitment and which help us realize the VFW National Security Program.

2. Our program will continue to take the lead in working to resolve the remaining issue of our last conflict—that of U.S. Prisoners of War and Missing in Action in Southeast Asia. We will neither forget nor rest until those veterans and victims of Communist aggression in Southeast Asia have been accounted for and recovered. We will not waver in our efforts to secure a full accounting of our missing comrades. We will insist that this issue receive the highest priority attention of the U.S. government and we will continue to bring the pressure of public awareness to bear on countries of Southeast Asia that fail to recognize the importance to us of this humanitarian issue.

3. Our National Security Program also will continue to take the lead in calling for the rebuilding of U.S. Armed Forces. To insure that America has a national defense second to none, we call for a commitment of 8% of the U.S. Gross National Product (GNP) to defense. This commitment must be maintained over the long term to provide for the rebuilding and modernization of U.S. military forces. We also demand a halt to the exports of strategic material and technology to the Soviet Union and the strengthening of the U.S. Customs Service by full funding and staffing.

4. In carrying out the VFW Peace Through Strength mandate, our National Security Program reaffirms our support for the modernization of our strategic deterrent forces. It begins with our unequivocal support for the continued production of the MX Peacekeeper missile to reach the achievable—without risk—goal of 100 missiles. We reiterate our support for the continued production and funding of the B-1B Bomber, the Trident submarine and the followon development of the Midgetman

National Security Committee: Seated, Executive Director Cooper T. Holt, of the VFW Washington Office; Jr. Vice Commander-inChief Norman G. Staab, Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Sr. Vice Commander-inChief John S. Staum and Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr. Standing, Director Kenneth A. Steadman, of National Security and Foreign Affairs; Vice Chairman Preston Garris, Chairman Al Feher, Vice Chairman J.P. Cockrill, Chairman John Flynn, of the POW/MIA Subcommittee; Vice Chairmen Ray Gallager and Clifford G. Olson, Jr., and Chief of Staff Larry W. Rivers.

ICBM and the Stealth programs as necessary to the complete modernization of the U.S. strategic arsenal. We also advocate testing of strategic weapons and cruise missiles necessary to preserve the U.S. role as the strategic guardian of the Free World.

5. We reconfirm our commitment to American defense primacy by calling for completion of the program to rebuild America's conventional forces. We call upon the Congress to increase the structure of the Army to 18 divisions to meet more fully the many worldwide commitments it faces. We reassert the need for a fully combat ready Marine Corps sufficiently funded to maintain a strength of at least four divisions and four air wings. Facing an unprecedented Soviet naval threat, we express our support for the effort to rebuild the U.S. Navy into the world's most modern, powerful and versatile fleet with an enlarged modern merchant marine and a fully manned, funded and refurbished Coast Guard in recognition of the important role they play in our security.

Since the National Guard and reserves of all services have sharply enhanced their importance under the Total Force Program, we support the need to fund, man and support fully these elements of our national power. Recognizing the vital importance of our forces deployed overseas, we support adequate U.S. defenses under NATO, including the development of modern theater nuclear forces such as the cruise missiles and the enhanced radiation/reduced blast neutron warhead.

We support every feasible public and private means to enhance the discipline, morale, *esprit de corps* and professionalism of the Armed Forces and oppose any changes in the military retirement system which reduce the ability of the Armed Forces to retain the military and naval professionals we need in service.

In the future, should the United States find it necessary to defend this nation or this nation's security interests that we fight with but one objective: TO WIN. Never again a no-win war.

6. We sustain our support for sharp reductions of nuclear weapons to equal, balanced and verifiable levels and oppose those who call for a unilateral freeze on nuclear weapons which serves only to disarm the West. Noting Soviet violations of existing arms control agreements and Soviet efforts to gain the technological high ground, we urge the accelerated research and development of an effective anti-ballistic missile defense system. We also urge this defense system be integrated with a comprehensive, effective and fully funded Civil Defense program designed to protect an exposed America.

7. We call upon Congress to reassert publicly and clearly the continued validity of the Monroe Doctrine as a proper guide for U.S. policy toward other nations of the Western Hemispere. We urge that the School of Americas be kept open to train Latin American military leaders and that the additional training of such leaders here in the United States be continued and increased.

We urge also that by our actions, as well as our deeds, the United States both draw the line against further Communist encroachment in Central America and helpfully and creatively extend the hand of freedom and dignity such as has been the case by this country's new resolute policies with respect to drawing the line in El Salvador and discontinuing any form of aid to Marxist Nicaragua.

8. We call also upon the President and Congress to continue the present policy of no trade with Communist Cuba; that Communist Cuba not be diplomatically recognized so long as its leaders retain a policy of harsh injustice and their armed forces serve under the strategic direction of the Soviet Union. We reject, under any circumstances, the granting of any concessions affecting the complete and undiluted U.S. control and use of Guantanamo Bay. We urge the President to continue strategic reconnaissance of Cuba to insure accurate intelligence as to the manner in which the Kennedy-Khrushchev Agreement of 1962 is being honored by the Cubans. Lastly, we urge that if the Soviet Union move dramatically against the United States or our vital interests worldwide, we promptly and effectively blockade the Soviet bastion of Cuba.

9. With respect to our long standing relationship with the Republic of China on Taiwan, we urge the United States government to reestablish formal relations with our oldest ally in the Pacific and continue all other agreements between our governments which have the force of law. We reaffirm the need to obtain assurances from the Peoples Republic of China that it will not use force in an attempt to subjugate the free people of the Republic of China on Taiwan. We also urge the United States government to take action to prohibit exportation of military equipment and technology to the Peoples Republic of China which would give the Peoples Republic of China a military advantage over the Republic of China on Taiwan. We urge, instead, that the Republic of China on Taiwan be allowed to purchase such modern weapons, equipment and technology that will enable it to maintain a military force capable of defending itself.

10. We urge the United States government to increase its military assistance to the Republic of Korea, providing her with modern state-of-theart weapons and technology. Also, we urge that the United States provide for flexibility in its military strength in the Republic of Korea to react to any military or political buildup by North Korea and not allow our military capability to diminish.

11. We reaffirm our support for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and urge the member nations to increase their individual contribution to the common defense. We pledge our maximum influence to increase the conventional capability of the NATO nations to enhance both the deterrent and the military capability of our forces. ■

VFW Legislative Goals, 1984-85

VA Budget

We prevail upon the Congress of the United States to budget and appropriate sufficient funding for the Veterans Administration to fully support the ever increasingly burdened VA hospital and medical care system.

Compensation, DIC and Pension

The integrity of the compensation program, the keystone of all veterans' benefits, must be maintained along with the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and pension programs. We oppose in the strongest possible terms proposals to reduce or eliminate benefits for disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors.

Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee

We insist on the retention of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee as a standing Committee of the United States Senate and adamantly oppose any effort to reduce its status or function.

Herbicide Exposure

That Congress encourage the expeditious completion of studies on the health problems attributable to herbicide related claims and include placing the burden of proof for the award of disability compensation on the government.

Radiation Exposure

We continue to support legislation granting medical treatment and service connection for compensation purposes on a presumptive basis for certain disorders when verification of exposure to radiation is established.

Older Veterans

We urge Congress to provide the necessary funding and staffing for a comprehensive geriatric and extended health care program so that this nation's ever-growing ranks of older veterans may be provided for in what may be their time of greatest need.

Cabinet Level for VA Administrator

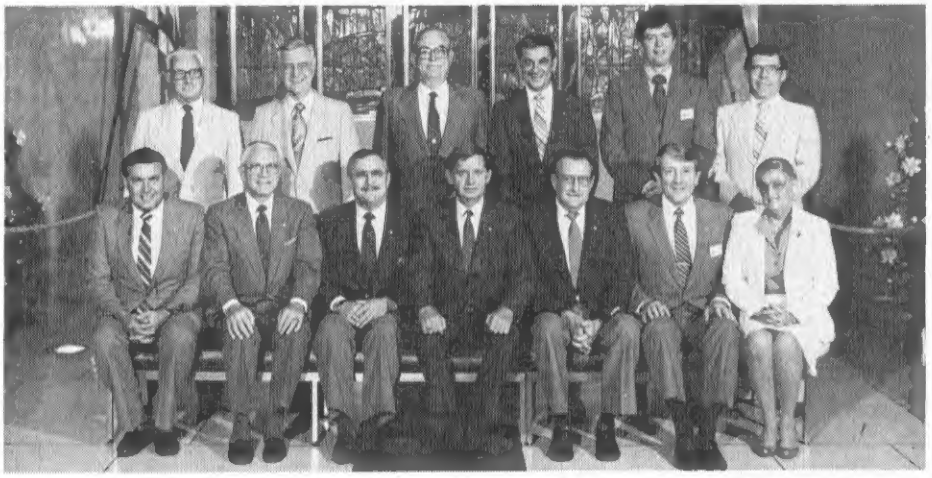
We strongly support the Veterans Administration's being upgraded to Executive Department status and the Administrator of Veterans Affairs being designated as a member of the President's Cabinet.

VA Personnel Structure

We vigorously oppose any and all attempts to reduce the Veterans Administration personnel structure, in particular, those Department of Medicine and Surgery personnel in grades GS/GM 11-15 as jointly proposed by OPM and OMB.

Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act

We actively support the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act and request that appropriate legislation be enacted to streamline the administration of the program to include the delegation of authority to the State



National Legislative Committee: Seated, Chairman Joseph L. Vicites, Executive Director Cooper T. Holt, of the VFW Washington Office; Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab, Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum, Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.; National Legislative Director Norma Ogle, of the Ladies Auxiliary. Standing, Vice Chairman Joseph A. Scerra; Director Donald H. Schwab, of the National Legislative Service; Vice Chairmen Arthur W. Burress and Al DeStefano; Special NLS Assistant Dennis M. Cullinan, and Assistant NLS Director James N. Magill. Not shown, Vice Chairmen Emmett A. Stelzer and Alcuin G. Loehr.

Civil Service and Employment Committee: Seated, Executive Director Cooper T. Holt, of the VFW Washington Office; Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab, Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum and Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr. Standing, Vice Chairmen Paul Wampler and Vernon Soukup, Director Fred Juarbe, of National Veterans Service; Chairman James C. Gates, Vice Chairman Charles Godke and Special Assistant for Employment Robert L. Jones.

Job Service and/or the Local Veterans' Employment and Training Services to recertify participants in the program. We strongly recommend that the initial certification under the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act be extended for a period of 90 days and that the 15 of the last 20 weeks unemployment provision be eliminated.

Veterans' Preference

We support veterans' preference and its strict enforcement in all federal departments and agencies and reaffirm our traditional policy and oppose any and all attempts to weaken or destroy veterans' benefits and preference in federal and public employment.

Requirement for Federal Employment

We support legislation which would require all eligible male federal service applicants be registered with the Selective Service System and that nonselective service registrants be removed automatically from consideration for any government job until they register with the Selective Service. ■

50,000 Ahead; Membership Elates NCA

When the VFW National Council of Administration met in Kansas City on Oct. 6, a feeling of elation filled the air.

Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron announced that the organization is 50,000 ahead in membership compared with the same period last year and expressed the hope that the total by the end of the 1984-85 year will exceed the 2,000,149 reached when 1983-84 concluded.

Joining in pledging to support Cameron's efforts were Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab, Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., and Quartermaster Gen. J.A. Cheatham.

Vander Clute told the Council that requests for financial support from the VFW have increased over the past year. He noted also that the Congressional Medal of Honor Society sent a letter of thanks for the VFW's "munificent" contribution to its Hall of Honor on the USS Intrepid in New York Harbor.

The Council authorized an $18,000 expenditure for the inaugural dinner for Medal of Honor recipients traditionally hosted by the VFW.

One speaker at the meeting related what the Military Order of the Cootie has done over the past year to help the VFW to grow.

He was Supreme Commander Bobbie Birdett, who said the MOC in 1983-84 signed up 42,805 new and reinstated members for the VFW.

VFW National Home work, he continued, now includes putting aside $500 a year for each winner of the Cooties' four-year scholarship in order that he or she will have $2,000 at graduation to start out on. A similar amount will be available for vocational school graduates.

Quartermaster Gen. Cheatham reported on the sound financial condition of the National Organization and detailed expenditures and income from a variety of sources, such as restricted funds earmarked for veterans' and community services.

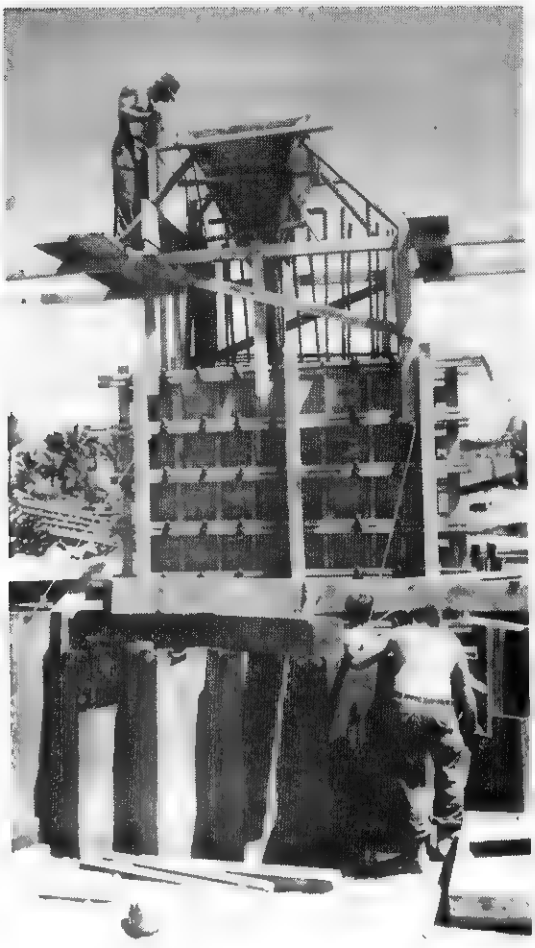
He also described beautification plans for a portion of the grounds of the VFW National Headquarters Building in Kansas City.

The National Council of Administration approved the 1984-85 budget of $15,062,069, which includes the National Headquarters, Community and Veterans' Service and Life Membership Funds.

In addition, Cheatham announced that the VFW's total assets are $88 million, the bulk of which is in restricted funds. This is an indication of the VFW's stature in the nation's financial circles and is regarded by financial experts as a tribute to its conservative fiscal policies under Cheatham. ■

National Council of Administration: First Row: James J. Thiel, 5; Monte D. Hanson, 11 Past Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr.; Quartermaster Gen. J.A. Cheatham, Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.; Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum, Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab, Judge Advocate Gen. Thomas Pouliot, Surgeon Gen. Raymond W. Schlueter, James W. Felton, B, and National Chaplain Frederick W. Christiansen. Second Row: Robert C. Jordan, 1; William Procter, 10; Lester W. Davis, 8; A.J. Heggestad, 12; Thomas J. Dougherty, A; Albert J. Konan, 2; W. Howard Fite, 17; William H. Taylor, 13; Lawrence J. Krugman, D; C.W. Buchanan, H; Assad Allie, F; Samuel C. Pilato, C, and Inspector Gen. J.P. Cockrill. Third Row: Chief of Staff Larry W. Rivers, Arthur Morin, I; Manuel V. Oliver, 3; George S. Bellon, G; Richard M. Dawson, 6; Elmer L. Matheke, 4; Manuel Evaro, 15; Robert H. Mares, E; Harold L. Lind, 14; Otha M. Kerr, 7, and Joe DeCosta, 16. Not pictured to meet travel schedule: Hollis Smith, 9.

Tigers in War & Builders for Peace



By Charles P. Clarke

THE NAVY'S SEABEES are builders for peace, but tigers in war, gentle in their concern for the civilians wherever they are assigned and always concerned primarily with United States' military needs.

A prime example is Diego Garcia, the remote Indian Ocean island that has been transformed into a strategic naval and air base guarding the approaches to the Persian Gulf and the area's vital oil resources.

Beginning in 1971 and continuing through September 1983, battalions of Seabees built, among other things, more than 17 miles of roads plus warehouses, fuel tanks, troop barracks, communications lines, a complete power plant and distribution system and a 12,000-foot runway capable of handling everything from Piper Cubs to jet transports. Jutting into Diego Garcia's deep, 13-mile-long lagoon is a 5,500-foot pier supported by some seven miles of concrete-filled pilings. Alongside the jetty is a mammoth pumphouse that moves fuel from moored ships to storage tanks on shore.

The Seabees' official "history book" summarizes the achievements of the more than 26,000 Seabees who served in Vietnam:

"They supported the Marines at Chu Lai and Khe Sanh, reopened the railway between Hue and Danang, struggled with the logistics problems of the Mekong Delta, constructed a new Naval base on a sand pad floating on paddy mud, and built staggering quantities of warehouses, aircraft support facilities, roads and bridges. They also supplied fresh water to countless numbers of Vietnamese villages through hundreds of Seabee-dug wells, provided medical treatment to thousands of villagers, and opened up new opportunities and hope for generations to come through Seabee-built schools, hospitals, utilities systems and other community facilities."

Seabees also worked with and taught construction skills to the Vietnamese people, helping them to help themselves.

In Vietnam, the Mobile Construction Battalions were self-sufficient units geared to move anywhere, anytime. They had their own medics, chaplains, paymasters, and they carried along their own light construction equipment—and weapons. Once they reached a job site, the battalions dug and manned their own bunkers and, when called for, fought alongside the GIs.

Since the Vietnam War, the Seabees have served as a kind of Navy "Peace Corps". Thirteen-man teams have worked in dozens of Third World countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, building water systems, roads, dams, hospitals, orphanages, schools, sanitation facilities and other community projects. They also carry out rescue and rebuilding missions after earthquakes, typhoons and other natural disasters. Inevitably, American knowhow and ideals rub off on local populaces.

The Seabees returned to the Philippines with Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur in October, 1944, and six years later began their biggest ever peacetime project: construction of the U.S. Navy's huge 7th Fleet base at Cubi Point on Subic Bay. By was completed five years later, the Seabees had expended 20 million manhours of labor and moved a greater volume of earth than in the digging of the Panama Canal! Subic Bay, along with Clark Field in the Philippines, remains the mainstay of American defenses in the Western Pacific.

Apra Harbor, Guam—*A giant seawall under construction by Seabees of the 76th Construction Battalion. When completed, the two-mile breakwater contained 1.76 million cubic yards of earth and stone. A 30-ton boulder is being hauled to the dumping spot.(Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy)*

Although the Seabees are best known for their exploits in the Pacific, even inspiring James Michener to write his Pulitzer Prize-winning "Tales of the South Pacific," they also served with distinction on the Atlantic road to victory in World War II. In the north, the road led through Seabee-built bases and facilities from Argentia, Newfoundland, through Iceland, Scotland and Northern Ireland to England, France and, finally, to Germany. To the south, the Seabees built other bases and installations from Bermuda and the Caribbean to Freetown, Sierra Leone; Casablanca, Morocco; Arzew, Algeria, and on to Sicily and Southern France.

In England alone the Seabees built 15 amphibious bases and a variety of other military facilities. On the European continent, they bridged the Rhine and entered the heart of Nazi Germany. Along with the engineers of the Army, Marines and Air Corps, the Seabees once again "paved the way."

Anecdotes abound. A village in southwestern England remembers Seabee Philip Bishop. When a German bomb blew up a fuel dump and sent a river of flaming gasoline downhill toward the village, Bishop quickly bulldozed a dam that blocked the oncoming fire. In gratitude, he was awarded the British Empire Medal (Military).

During the D-Day landing on Utah beach in Normandy, Richard D. Anderson, a Seabee doctor, was approached by a highly disturbed villager whose wife was having a baby and needed help. Dr. Anderson obliged. The child, a girl, was born amid the sounds of battle and named by her grateful parents, Seabee Paule Fourchard.

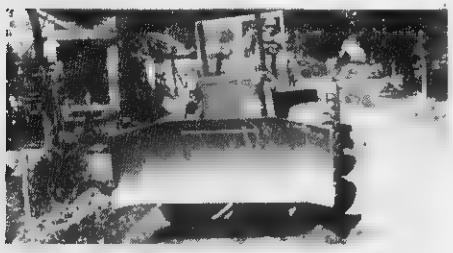
Da Nang, Vietnam—*Construction Battalion 12 Seabees fit pie-shaped sections into place for the roof of a 10,000-barrel fuel tank being erected at Da Nang Air Force Base.(Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy)*

Since the Vietnam War, the Seabees have served as a kind of Navy "Peace Corps."

Overseas duty by the Seabees didn't end with the war. In September, 1945, a 20-man detachment from Construction Battalion 114, stationed in the Aleutians, was ordered to Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula to build a fleet weather station for joint U.S.-Soviet operations. The job was completed in 18 days, a monument to Soviet-American cooperation that no longer exists.

In the months immediately following the war, the Seabees also were assigned to projects in mainland China. Six battalions built airfields and port facilities for use in the evacuation of Japanese war prisoners and to import supplies for war-torn China.

Near Da Nang, Vietnam—
Equipment operators of Mobile Construction Battalion 12, Co. A, level and grade Route 13 south of Marble Mountain. For protection, they wear metal helmets and flak jackets. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Navy)



In Japan, 16 Seabee battalions helped rebuild essential public services in a score of shattered cities, including Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In mid-1946, Seabees were assigned the task of constructing facilities on Bikini Atoll in the Pacific in preparation for the historic atomic bomb tests. And by contrast, "Operation High Jump" in late 1946 brought a 173-man Seabee detachment to Antarctica to help Adm. Richard E. Byrd build new installations at Little America.

With the outbreak of the Korean War in 1950, the Seabees were under fire again. In September, 1950, they had a direct hand in the Inchon landings, one of the most brilliant amphibious assaults in history. Battling 30-foot tides and treacherous currents, and under murderous enemy gun fire, the Seabees positioned pontoon causeways within hours of the initial assault, enabling Gen. MacArthur's troops to surge ashore to outflank the North Koreans.

It was during the Inchon operation that a group of Seabees pulled off what became known as the "Great Seabee Train Robbery." To break a transportation bottleneck at the harbor, the Seabees slipped behind enemy lines, captured some abandoned locomotives and, despite enemy mortar fire, brought the engines safely to Inchon and to a delighted U.S. Army Transportation Corps.

Later in the Korean War, a group of nine Seabees worked round-the-clock in five-below zero temperatures to keep a 21-mile stretch or road open to an embattled and isolated Marine outpost. It represented a further tightening of the bond between the Seabees and the Marine Corps.

Today, the rusting remnants of Quonset huts, the outlines of runways now overgrown by jungle, and chunks of steel and concrete that once were busy docks and piers bear mute witness to wartime presence of the Seabees in such remote but remembered places as Eniwetok, the Admiralites, Tarawa, Peleliu, New Britain, Iwo Jima, Kwajalein, Saipan, Borneo, Biak, New Guinea, Hollandia, Namur, Espiritu, Santo, and in the barren Aleutian Islands off Alaska. ■

About the Author—
Charles P. Clarke, as an AP Correspondent during World War II, covered many Seabee operations in the Pacific Theater and has never lost his enthusiasm for these doughty men.

Seabees Train at National Home

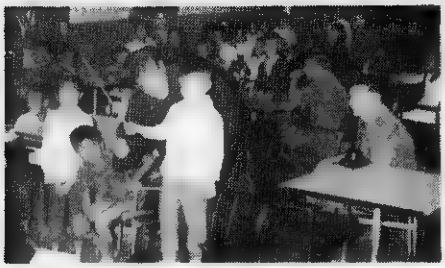
For the past year, Lansing, Mich., Seabee Reservists have been spending a weekend each month at the VFW National Home, rebuilding porches, replacing chimney flues and performing other tasks around the campus near Eaton Rapids as part of their training.

"They figure the job, and we get the material," said National Home maintenance supervisor Ron Barrett. "They come in early Saturday morning and stay through Sunday. They put in a good two days' work."

The last weekend in September, a whole new phase of this cooperative program began when, for the first time, heavy equipment belonging to the Navy was taken on an actual job site — in this case, the National Home.

The equipment, stored on campus, will be used for roadbuilding, clearing and possibly bridgebuilding.

"This Seabee unit is a model for the others like it in the country," Barrett said. "The National Home is benefiting greatly from their work, and they are getting the experience they need." ■



By Joan M. Maiman

An Unforgettable Christmas: Vietnam, 1970

THAT CHRISTMAS OF 1970 I HAD BEEN IN VIETNAM ONLY ABOUT A month.

Yet, preparations for the day had begun long before at many VFW Posts and Auxiliaries, as we were soon to learn.

Long Binh, where I was stationed as a Red Cross hospital worker at the 24th Evacuation Hospital, was one of the largest American troop concentrations in South Vietnam.

Numerous other units also were there, including military police, helicopter units, medical groups, supply companies and troops in from the field.

Many of these men came forward to see what they could do to make the holidays brighter for the patients. Also many of these young Americans gave freely of their time at the local orphanages and they were determined that their "kids" would not be forgotten in the celebrations.

On Christmas day, every GI on the post, as well as those in the hospital, and units in the field, those at fire support bases among them, would be remembered with a gift of a goodie-filled "ditty bag."

Ditty bags were much sought after small bags with a draw string closing made by groups in the United States. Many of these bags were made by VFW Auxiliaries who often included the name of the lady who made it. The troops loved these bags. They were very light and great for carrying items in the field.

Gifts to fill the Christmas bags had begun to arrive months earlier and had been stored in "conexs" in Vietnam and Japan to be brought into country immediately before the holiday. This material included mirrors for shaving in the field, paper and pens to write home, combs, playing cards, aftershave lotion and most treasured of all, bubble gum and "OCS material." The initials stood for Officer Candidate School and meant comic books. In a world of uncertain tomorrows, light reading like westerns and detective stories also were highly valued.

Again,VFW Posts and Auxiliaries came through for us.

Many of the letters Post members wrote to the hospital asking what they could send to the men were referred to me. Much of the Christmas material had already arrived in country by that Christmas, but throughout the year every letter I responded to from a concerned group in the United States was followed by the items we listed.

One Pennsylvania VFW Auxiliary sent its donations with a note for me and a bottle of dusting powder saying the Auxiliary wanted to be sure that we knew the members appreciated what women were doing to support the U.S. effort. I have never forgotten that small kindness.

Toys and clothing for the orphans were included with some of the material we received. I remember having a hard time separating some of the toys from the volunteers unpacking them. A Mickey Mouse who did flips over a bar and a small train with a whistle were quickly appropriated for "combat duty" by two GIs in for treatment from a fire support base.

A kind soul sent us a huge Christmas tree which we placed in the middle of the open compound of the hospital and decorated with an amazing assortment of toliet paper rolls and medical supplies such as empty bottles and packing material. Two days before Christmas we had all the material brought into a large room where we had set up tables to sort it.

The call went out for volunteers

because we had quite a job ahead of us, officially some 10,000 bags to fill for distribution by Santa and his elves.

An assembly line of sorts was established and we tried to see that each bag was filled with a mixture of comfort items, OCS material and just plain treats such as the bubble gum. Volunteers worked long hours, at times fortified by contributions from the bars at the officers club and the enlisted mens club. A "sing-along" of Christmas music, folk songs and at times rock songs helped to pass the time.

Those bags were especially important to the GIs that year, as anti-war sentiment had grown in the U.S. and some of our countrymen visited North Vietnam to denounce Americans who were fighting that country in the south. It meant so much to know that back in the "world" there were people who cared about the troops and sent their greetings.

I have sometimes thought there must have been some for whom that Christmas was to be their last. Even if they did not come home, however, they knew they had not been forgotten on that day.

Many of the groups, including the VFW, had sent cards and had enlisted the local schools to help in the effort. As a result we were able to include personal notes in many of the bags. Finally, the work was finished and we were ready for the distribution.

The gift-filled bags were taken out in armored personnel carriers and choppers by crews dressed in Santa suits. Jeeps, trucks and footpower also were pressed into service to make deliveries. After a bit of Christmas cheer, one creative trooper suggested that we could load "those suckers into large guns and just fire them out." Some vehicles bore the names of reindeers.

On Christmas Eve Midnight Mass was celebrated on the post and as the 24-hour truce began the guns fell silent. As we gathered for the service, the words heard in so many lands, "Peace be with you", were spoken—followed by the standard briefing on "what to do in case of mortar or rocket attack" during the service. This was a reminder of how fragile was the message brought on that night nearly 2,000 years before.

Christmas day arrived and we went out to the local orphanage to bring some of the children back to post to join in our holiday meal. Each volunteer GI—and we had far more volunteers than children—was to see that his child received a present sent from the States. The same volunteers who had packed the ditty bags had also wrapped the gifts for the orphans. Now we saw how these children, who had been literally thrown out at birth, just clutched their packages. They had no idea what to do with them. When the gifts were opened for the children, we discovered they had no idea of play. They stared in wonder at the toys. Clearly, survival had been their goal: they had no time to be children.

As the day progressed, especially after a meal of turkey and ice cream, reconstituted, of course, smiles wreathed the children's faces. Many of the little ones clung to the GIs when it was time to return to the orphanage. They wanted to stay. In this orphanage, outside the post, the children lived in open huts and often slept five to a bed. At least for a day, they had known that someone cared.

Back at the hospital, we sat in the compound and one of the soldiers played his guitar and sang a Christmas song of the islands, a song of how "Mary rocked her Jesus Babe," a gentle and haunting song.

We joined in the traditional carols and began to talk about what our families would be doing to celebrate Christmas back in the "world."

One soldier joked that he would not be able to sleep until the guns started at midnight because he was so used to the noise. So that Christmas came to an end, each of us with old and now new memories to carry through the years.

One of those memories would be the knowledge that in a land where peace was a stranger, we had been remembered. Those who sent those gifts, small things really, had given us a far greater gift of support, of caring.

I am sure that that night "Peace on earth" was their prayer. I know it was ours. ■

MUST LIQUIDATE

AT FAR BELOW DEALER COST!

12,000 BTU Kerosene Heater

PUBLIC NOTICE!

Intense competition in kerosene heater industry leads to an overproduction by a prominent company.

C.O.M.B. now authorized to liquidate a limited supply of high efficiency heaters at far below dealer cost!

FACTORY NEW! FIRST QUALITY!

Convection/Reflection

Heat circulates 360° and is distributed in all directions. Or it can be reflected to certain desired areas.

Excellent Japanese quality and high efficiency, combined with special safety features!

Cut down on high cost of your furnace heat. Use these units as dependable sources of low cost auxiliary heat!

Runs up to 15 hours on just 1.1 gallon of low cost kerosene!

Warms a 12-ft. x 36-ft. room at fraction of cost of your furnace!

From JAPAN, world-famous for the superior quality of their consumer products, come these highly efficient 12,000 BTU kerosene heaters. The manufacturer is an industry leader in Japan, where kerosene heaters have long been used in millions of homes as the PRIMARY source of heat! Designed for the U.S. market, this model incorporates ease of operation with the most reliable safety features! It can be used without venting! So you can easily move it around, wherever you need it.

Cut down on your heating bills!

Remember those sky-high heating bills last winter! Chances are they'll be even HIGHER this year! Here's an opportunity to "cut 'em down to size" with these kerosene heaters in various parts of your home. And the next time a winter storm knocks out the power to YOUR home and furnace, you'll be mighty glad you have these heaters ready to keep your family warm. Kerosene heaters come in handy, too, for preventing basement water pipes from freezing and bursting in extremely cold temperatures

High quality features!

- Broad base for utmost stability
- Removable stainless steel reflective shields
- Especially engineered burn chamber is virtually smoke and odor-free. Low oxygen consumption
- Mechanical safety shutoff automatically extinguishes wick if heater is tipped over.
- Rack and pinion system enables EVEN up/down movement of wick for more efficient combustion
- Glass chimney permits faster, more efficient heating. Better than ordinary metal chimneys
- Fiberglass and cotton wick allows quick and safe ignition every time
- Convenient, removable cartridge/fuel tank
- Size: 21½"H x 14½"W x 18½"D. Weight: 29 lbs.

Automatic Ignition!

Very convenient! No matches to light. Simply press a button, and the battery-powered starter mechanism automatically lights the heater. (Battery NOT included.)

Manufacturer's Suggested Retail
(1982 Price List)
$149.95

BUT THEY GO AT ONLY:
$48

Item F-776 62909-01
Price subject to change after 60 days
Offer void outside original 48 states

Credit card customers can order by phone, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

VISA MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS DINERS CLUB

Toll-Free: 1-800-328-0609

TeleCheck Your check is welcome! No delays in orders paid by check

C.O.M.B. CO.
Authorized Liquidator
14615 28TH AVENUE NORTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55441-3357

C.O.M.B. CO.® Item F 776 62909 01
14615 28th Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55441-3357

Send ___ Kerosene Heater(s) at $48 each plus $5.00 each for shipping and handling (Minnesota residents add 6% sales tax. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. Sorry, no C.O.D. orders.)

☐ My check or money order is enclosed (No delays in processing orders paid by check, thanks to TeleCheck.)

Charge: ☐ MasterCard® ☐ VISA ☐ Am. Ex. ☐ Diners Club

Acct. No. _____ Exp _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Sign here _____

General Orders

continued from page 8

4. The Annual Washington Conference of Department Commanders and National Officers will be in Washington, D.C., March 8-12, 1985. The Congressional Dinner will be the evening of March 12, 1985.

5. The 86th National Convention, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, will be held in Dallas, Texas, Aug. 16-23, 1985.

6. Post Commanders are reminded that entries for Community Activities Single Outstanding Project recognition may be submitted at any time during the year. The National Awards Program is a continuing one, with the panel of judges convening every two months. Details of the program are contained in the Awards folder sent to all Post Commanders.

7. Post Commanders are reminded that Jan. 1, is one of the official days when the Flag of the United States is to be displayed by all Americans.

8. Paragraph (d), Section 222 of the National Constitution and By-Laws provides "each Post shall register, in advance, at least one delegate to the National Convention by the payment of a fee in the amount of six dollars ($6.00), which fee shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and material." Posts that have not paid the advance registration fee are reminded that they must now pay the regular registration fee of $8.00. Post check should be forwarded to VFW National Headquarters immediately.

9. The location of the following Post has been changed: Post 8555 from Floresville to Poth, Texas.

10. Certificates of charter evidencing consolidation have been issued to the following Posts: Posts 1004 and 6234 consolidated as Post 1004, Rigby, Idaho; Posts 2617 and 3839 consolidated as Post 3839, Pequot Lakes, Minn.; Posts 2773 and 9184 consolidated as Post 2773, Denison, Texas; Posts 4541 and 6135 consolidated as Post 4541, Mount Vernon, Mo.; Posts 8218 and 9784 consolidated as Post 8218, Napoleon, Ohio.

11. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 151, Haledon, N.J.; Post 185, Rockwood, Pa.; Post 349, Fairlawn, Ohio; Post 364, Tappan, N.Y.; Post 509, Tobyhanna, Pa.; Post 560, Kutztown, Pa.; Post 897, Johnstown, Pa.; Post 987, West Hempstead, N.Y.; Post 1068, Newbury, Ohio; Post 1398, Wall, N.J.; Post 1742, New Concord, Ohio; Post 3448, Mt. Pocono, Pa.; Post 4781, Perry, Okla.; Post 4873, Stroud, Okla.; Post 4882, Kingfisher, Okla.; Post 5155, Tallulah, La.; Post 5357, Greensfield, Iowa; Post 6174, Eldridge, Iowa; Post 7938, Largo, Fla.; Post 7999, Summerfield, N.C.; Post 8360, Brackettville, Texas; Post 8800, Canyon Lake, Texas; Post 8986, Newport, N.C.; Post 9149, Tuttle, Okla.; Post 9529, Wellington, Colo.; Post 9875, Waverly, Neb.; Post 9981, Anchorage, Alaska; Post 10759, Bozrah, Conn.

By Command of
BILLY RAY CAMERON
Commander-in Chief

OFFICIAL:

Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.
Adjutant General

by Patrick R. Moran

PATTON'S PRAYER

FOR almost three solid months in the fall of 1944, before the Battle of the Bulge, the whole Western Front had been subjected to a steady downpour of rain that made roads virtual quagmires, turned creeks into swollen torrents and soldiers into soggy masses of muddy olive drab.

On Dec. 8, 1944, Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., commander of the 3rd Army, hit on what he thought was the solution to the problem.

He telephoned the 3rd Army chaplain, Brig. Gen. James H. O'Neill, a Roman Catholic monsignor, at the army's headquarters in Nancy.

"Do you have a good prayer for weather?" he asked. "We must do something about these rains if we are to win the war."

Chaplain O'Neill immediately agreed to look for such a prayer and report back within an hour.

"I looked at the steadily falling rain—immoderate, I would call it—the same rain that had plagued Gen. Patton's army throughout the Moselle and Saar campaigns from September until now, Dec. 8," he noted in his daily log.

In another week, Hitler would take his last gamble, a major offensive against Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's 1st Army to the north of the 3rd. The Belgian port city of Antwerp and the French city of Reims and its huge supply of gasoline were the objectives.

Prayer books were scarce, and those at hand did not contain any formal prayer on weather that might be acceptable to Gen. Patton. So Chaplain O'Neill typed an original and improved copy of a prayer on a filing card.

Logically he typed Gen. Patton's Christmas message on the reverse side of the prayer card. No Hallmark and hurriedly printed, the greetings read:

"To each officer and soldier in the United States Army, I wish a Merry Christmas. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We march in our might to complete victory. May God's blessing rest upon each of you on this Christmas Day."

Veterans of 3rd Army units remember the little card as "Patton's Christmas Prayer." The 3½ by 2-inch card proved that prayer can be powerful even in small packages. It went like this:

"Almighty and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have had to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies, and establish Thy justice among men and nations. Amen."

"After reading the card, Patton gave this directive, 'Have 250,000 copies printed and see to it that every man in the 3rd Army gets one.' (The size of the order amazed me—this was certainly doing something about the weather in a big way.) Very well, sir!" the chaplain's log continued.

Then Patton asked him, "How much praying is being done in the 3rd Army?"

The chaplain replied, "I don't believe much praying is going on. When there is fighting, everyone prays, but now with this constant rain—when things are quiet, prayer out here is difficult."

Patton commented, "I am a strong believer in prayer. There are three ways that men get what they want—by planning, working and praying. Any great military operation takes careful planning or thinking. Then you must have well-trained troops to carry it out—that is working.

"We were lucky in Africa, in Sicily and in Italy, simply because people prayed. But we have to pray for ourselves, too."

"Great living is not all output of thought and work. A man has to have intake as well. I don't know what you call it, but I call it Religion, Prayer, or God," Patton said.

Msgr. O'Neill wrote that the approximately 486 Chaplains in the 3rd Army represented 32 denominations. The chief of chaplains' contact with chaplains in his command had been chiefly through training letters issued from time to time to chaplains of the four corps and the 22 to 26 divisions comprising the 3rd Army. Gen. Patton

directed him to put out a training letter to encourage prayer among the troops.

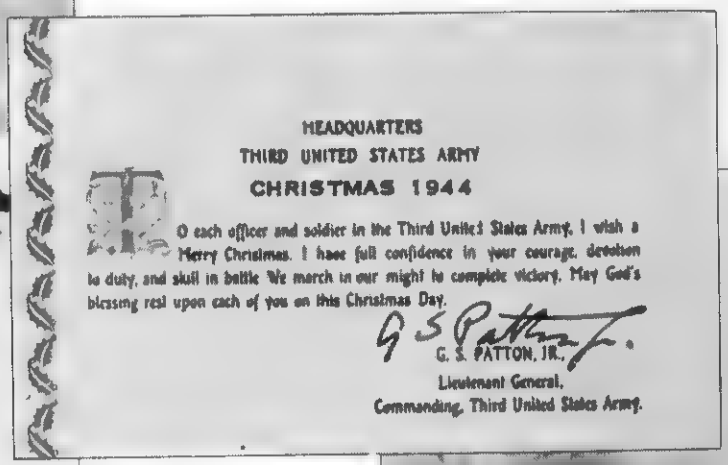
"We've got to get not only the chaplains but every man in the 3rd Army to pray," he said. "We must ask God to stop these rains. These rains are the margin that spells defeat or victory. If we all pray, it will be like plugging in on a current whose source is Heaven. I believe that prayer completes that circuit. It is power!"

Chaplain O'Neill related that the 250,000 copies of the prayer card were made to reach the troops by Dec. 12 through Dec. 14.

Two days later, on Dec. 16, the Germans commanded by Field Marshal Gerd von Runstedt broke through the thinly held center of the 1st Army sector in the Schnee Eifel, followed quickly by attacks all along the 1st's line from Luxembourg in the south to Elsenborn and Monschau in the north. Hitler employed two panzer armies and one field army in this last offensive to halt the advancing Allies. The route was the same one that had proved so successful in 1914 and 1940, but his weakened forces were stopped short of the Meuse and began withdrawing on Jan. 22. Three days later the Ardennes-Alsace Campaign was officially over. The Germans suffered 100,000 casualties, the Americans 81,000 (19,000 killed and 15,000 captured) and the British 1,400. Equipment losses were massive; a thousand German planes were destroyed.

Patton moved north to relieve besieged Bastogne, the vital center of

These 75th Division troops are moving cautiously while two others, not shown, rout out German snipers in a Belgian village during the Battle of the Bulge. (Army Photo)



HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
CHRISTMAS 1944

To each officer and soldier in the Third United States Army, I wish a Merry Christmas. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle. We march in our might to complete victory. May God's blessing rest upon each of you on this Christmas Day.

G. S. PATTON, JR.,
Lieutenant General,
Commanding, Third United States Army.

American troops, pushing back the Germans during the Battle of the Bulge 40 years ago, move through the ruins of St. Vith, Belgium. (Army Photo)

a road network held by the surrounded 101st Airborne Division, CCB of the 10th Armored Division and other units. Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe, the 101st's acting commander, penned his famous "Nuts" reply to German surrender demands on Dec. 22. Fourth Armored Division tankers under Creighton Abrams, later army commander in Vietnam, broke through on Dec. 26.

A turnabout in the weather came on Dec. 20. Rains and fogs ceased, but snow took their place, and a week of bright clear skies followed. It was perfect flying weather. Veterans of the campaign still remember the "planes coming over the forests by the tens, hundreds and thousands, knocking out the enemy" and testify to the seemingly miraculous appearance and support by the Army Air Force. Patton's prayer apparently was answered.

Whether fate or irony, Patton's death occurred almost a year later on Dec. 21, 1945, his neck was broken when his automobile and an Army truck collided 12 days earlier near Heidelberg, Germany.

In his eulogy of the general, Chaplain O'Neill quoted him as saying, "Anyone in any walk of life who is content with mediocrity is untrue to himself and to American tradition."

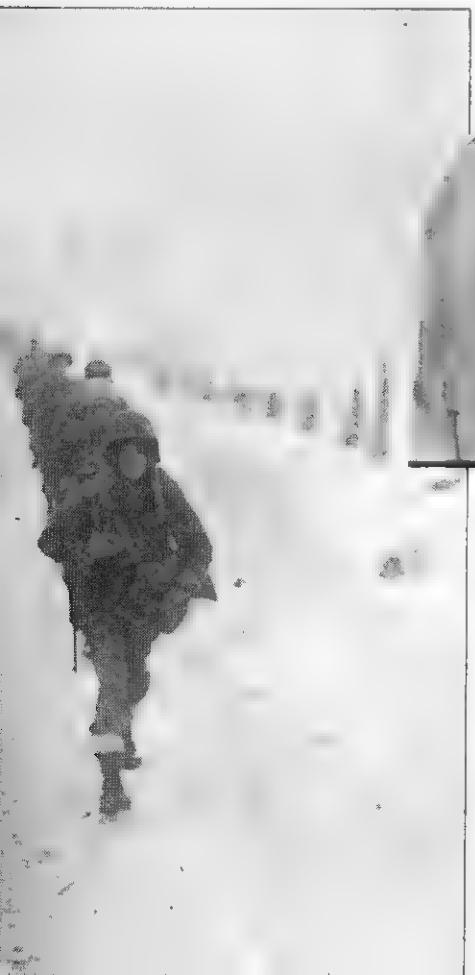
O'Neill himself died in 1972. He had retired from military service as army deputy chief of chaplains. At his death, he was rector of Sacred Heart Cathedral in Pueblo, Colo. ■

About the Author

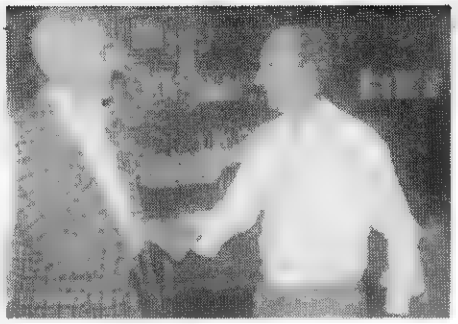
Patrick R. Moran is editor of the VFW Indiana Combat Veteran and two monthly religious magazines.

Brig. Gen. James H. O'Neill, chief chaplain of the 3rd Army (Army Photo)

GIs plod through snow during bleak days in December 1944.



A pile of smashed concrete is all that remains of this German bunker on the Siegfried Line, scene of bitter fighting early in the Battle of the Bulge when the Germans broke through U.S. lines.



Joe Curreri, the writer, meets his Dutch "savior", Adrian Goosens, for the first time since World War II.

A Christmas Reunion ▫ 4(

By Joe Curreri

OUR FIRST FURTIVE HANDSHAKE, ONE MIDNIGHT 40 YEARS AGO IN the woods crawling with Nazi troops, risked both our lives: a young downed airman and a young Dutch Underground leader with a conscience.

Forty years later, we clasped hands again, openly this time. It was a reunion to honor Adrian Goosens for saving my life, the rest of our crew and numerous other Americans during World War II.

Adrian was a man in his 20s when the Nazis occupied Holland. He could have done a million other things, even received a reward for turning in Americans to the Nazis. He could have been shot for helping us.

I first met Adrian on Sept. 17, 1944. It was the beginning of the greatest airborne operation in history, the Battle of Arnhem. About 35,000 Allied paratroopers dropped behind Nazi lines in Holland to seize control of seven bridges and so hasten the advance of British ground troops from Belgium. Unfortunately, the Allies underestimated the strength of the German forces and by the time the British arrived seven days late thousands of the invaders had been killed, captured or wounded.

As crew chief of a C-47, I blustered, "This will end the war." Three months earlier, we had helped drop the 101st Airborne Division into France on D-Day. "It was easy," I boasted. It was the gushing of youth and arrogance, I would soon learn.

We were in the 436th Troop Carrier Group. My plane, carrying four crewmen and 18 paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne, was prophetically named "The Clay Pigeon."

We were to drop our troops near Nijmegen. We never made it. An antiaircraft shell exploded right smack in the middle of our fuselage. In seconds, the plane was blazing. In wild disorder, the paratroopers jumped past me, but the flames reached them. I watched in horror.

"What'll we do, Joe?" called Harry Tinkcom, our radio operator.

"Jump!" I shouted. With my heart thumping, I followed.

Landing in an open field, I ran for the woods. All alone and unarmed, I felt as helpless as a frightened bird that had lost its wings.

Suddenly, a Dutch civilian came from nowhere and shouted, *"American? Vien avec moi."* Through my high school French, I understood I was to follow him. Friend or foe? I had to trust him.

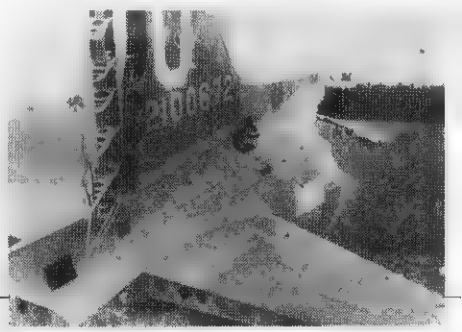
I quickly learned what trust and faith meant.

Adrian Goosens hid me in his home for two days until the Germans began searching every house. Then he hid me in the woods, eventually joining me with my crew. I was happy to see Harry, but absolutely stunned to see both my pilots alive. Co-pilot Andrews lay unconscious. Pilot Brassesco, who suffered broken legs, cuts and burns, told the incredible story of how the plane crashed and the Dutch dragged them out.

The following days, small and wiry Adrian scouted the area, warning us when the enemy approached. At midnight he and a farmer named Smoulders brought us food. At one point, about 30 Germans came within 20 yards of us. But, thanks to Adrian's warning, we dug foxholes, camouflaged them with brush and branches and were undetected.

For seven days and sleepless nights, we hid in the woods, moving about on Adrian's advice, waiting for the advancing British troops. I marvelled at the Dutch. To me, Adrian was at least 10 feet tall.

When the British finally arrived, Adrian directed a Bren gun-carrier



This was all that was left of Curreri's plane, the "Clay Pigeon," after she crashed and burned in Holland.

Goosens took this photo when the Americans were hiding in the Dutch woods, Sept. 17, 1944. Curreri is left. Pilot Brassesco is right and Co-Pilot Andrews is in the center.

Years Later

to our hiding place. Thank God, rescue at last.

After the war, I went instead into the battles of America and the war games of business. But never did I forget the paratroopers on my plane who perished. Nor did I forget Adrian Goosens.

Through the years, we kept in touch. This man had touched me. I owed him something.

In 1953, a devastating flood hit Holland and the Dutch were in dire need of food, clothing and medicine. Reacting swiftly, I posted a sign on my shoe repair shop window: "We will collect any old clothing, shoes and blankets for Holland's Flood Relief."

The response was tremendous. Sympathetic and kind people rushed to help me in my drive. I collected two truckloads of clothing, blankets and shoes. Through the Netherlands Consulate, I saw that my Dutch friends and those in need were aided.

That wonderful display of sympathy, kindness and understanding renewed my faith in mankind.

The years went by and we both grew. We married and we both suffered heart attacks, recovered and retired.

But one aim in life gnawed at me. To meet again the man who saved my life. Financial problems, among others, prevented it.

Then, one day 40 years later, I received a phone call. "This is Holland calling. Adrian. Adrian Goosens!"

I almost dropped the phone. "Adrian?" I gasped..."It can't be...You're speaking English."

"Yes, it's me, my friend," the voice spoke. "It's time we meet again. While we live. I've learned English now, and I have no worry with money. I send you my check from Rabobank Nederland. You and your wife come to my home for 10 days. You are my guest. You don't spend a penny."

I couldn't hold back the tears. I was overwhelmed...Could he be kidding?

Sure enough, his check for two plane fares arrived.

With my wife unable to make it, I invited my oldest son and we made arrangements.

"This man's hand is reaching me," I kept repeating. "This man's smile, over the years and the miles, is greeting me."

But one thing bugged me. How can you ever repay a man who saves your life?

No matter how kind I will be to him, no matter what I will shower on him...it will never be enough to recompense this man for his courage, his tenacity, his commitment.

I had to do something special, something meaningful.

My city of Philadelphia helped. So did President Reagan. When I told them the story, Mayor William Green drew up an official greeting to Adrian Goosens and his comrades thanking them for the help they gave American soldiers and the cause of freedom during the war. Accompanying that was a miniature reproduction of the Liberty Bell with an engraved plaque. The White House complied with a beautiful color portrait of the President bearing the words:

"To Adrian Goosens, with thanks and greetings from the American people." Signed: Ronald Reagan.

Once again, I learned the awesome power of love and humanity. "I guess that's what I fought for," I told my family. "This is what America is all about."...

With echoes that are 40 years old, I returned on a flight to Holland. This time, over friendly skies. This time, we carried cameras instead of combat troops, gift bundles instead of bullets.

And so we met again in his beautiful home in Eersol, Holland. And for a little while the years fell away. It was an emotional reunion. We clasped hands and raised glasses in a tribute to great days and great memories.

When I presented Adrian with my gifts from America, he thanked me with misty eyes. He stared at that Bell of Freedom...and he slowly rang it...and he would only say brokenly, "It was my duty."...

Adrian is 68 now, and he lives with his wife, Mia, son Rene and daughter Maryolyn. He says he is a retired teacher and lecturer on scientific subjects. But he keeps busy with the farm land he owns. As for his health, he says, "I don't have time to die. I'm too busy." What he's most proud of is the one section of land where he grows the best species of hundreds of Christmas trees.

My 10-day stay there, with son Joey, was an experience in the spirit of Christmas. We spent days reminiscing and retracing our dreadful experience in the woods, voicing a common denunciation of the horror and futility of wars. But he also introduced us to the beauty, serenity and warmth of his country, especially its people. In his little car, he took us all over Holland, including Belgium and Germany. And the spirits flowed freely; everywhere the same: "Here's to you, Yank!"

I came back knowing there are nice people on this earth, and everywhere I looked the world was radiant.

Adrian Goosens told us that he stands 5 feet 6 inches.

He is wrong. To me he still is at least 10 feet tall. ■

This photo was taken after Curreri and the others Americans, with Dutch Underground fighters, had eluded the Germans for a week. Goosens is standing, second from right, while Curreri is on the left in the foreground.

Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron with Philadelphia's Post 2917's Forward Observer Award he presents to Fred Whiten for his work with Vietnam veterans at the University of Pennsylvania.

by Donald Hunt

Aiding Vietnam Veterans Satisfying

ONLY A FEW DAYS AFTER THE 85th VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION, two Vietnam Veterans got together in Philadelphia.

One was the newly-elected Commander-in-Chief, Billy Ray Cameron, and the other was Fred Whiten, director of Veterans Upward Bound at the University of Pennsylvania.

They met in the Philadelphia City Council chambers so Cameron could present Fred Whiten with the Forward Observer Award from Post 2917 for his work with Vietnam veterans.

Post Commander John Henry Gordon explained:

"We wanted to recognize him for all that he has done for Vietnam veterans. We are pleased that he has made the VFW aware of the Veterans Upward Bound Program and we hope more people from the program will join the VFW.

"Fred's work with the Vietnam veterans has been a real Godsend and it was nice that Billy Ray Cameron could take time out to make the presentation."

Whiten, 38, a Vietnam veteran himself, sees part of his function as serving as a role model for other veterans attempting to put their lives back together.

Veterans Upward Bound, a federally-funded program at the old Ivy League university in Philadelphia, provides academic and support services to veterans so they can obtain a general equivalency diploma—the GED—and achieve success in education beyond high school.

"Our program has been in exsistance for one year," Whiten said. "This program gives the veterans a chance to take advantage of our many services such as developmental instruction, career guidance, tutoring and counseling. Once they've completed our 16-week session they are usually ready to take the next step. This could be going on to college or seeking employment. All services are provided to the veterans at no cost.

"I spent four years in Vietnam," Fred said. "I realize the problems some of the Vietnam veterans have experienced once they've returned home. They usually feel a sense of rejection from the public. Most of them have a very low self-esteem. They feel as if nobody cares about them.

"This kind of mental outlook is not very good for any veteran who wants to have a productive life. I know when I came home from Vietnam I was determined to finish my education. I also wanted a good job. I try to impress upon them to do as much as they possibly can."

"We have provided 120 veterans with the proper skills to get themselves on the right track."

Whiten, a product of the Philadelphia public schools, continued his education at Temple University and earned a bachelor of science degree in elementary education, then a master's degree in counseling from Philadelphia's Antioch University and is now working towards a doctorate.

He has been a schoolteacher, management consultant ans a representative for the Veterans Affairs Department of Temple University, so you can imagine his excitement when the University of Pennsylvania was awarded a one-year grant by the United States Department of Education for the Upward Bound Program and chose him to direct it.

"I'm happy to be a part of the program," he said. "We've only been here a year. However, we have reached so many veterans. It feels very exhilirating inside. I believe the biggest reward a person can have comes from helping someone else. I feel like I'm a small part of the veterans' success. Most of them are trying to move in the right direction."

To be eligible for Veterans Upward Bound, veterans must demonstrate interest and potential to succeed in post-secondary education; be a potential first generation college student or a person neither of whose parents received a bachelor's degree; must have served in the Armed Forces between Jan. 1, 1955, through Dec. 31, 1976; have a family income which does not exceed Department of Education established levels for Veterans Upward Bound; must meet required program selection criteria, including a personal interview; pro-

continued on page 43

Horseback Riding Is Vets' Therapy

Enjoying a ride is Perry Point, Md., VA Medical Center patient Frank Groves, who recently completed an eight-week therapeutic horseback riding program. With him are Bruce Young, a recreation therapist and George Cooper, a volunteer. (VA Photo)

Recreation therapists at Perry Point, Md., VA Medical Center have found a new therapy, horseback riding. Among other things, it increases veterans' confidence and coordination.

Center therapists Reynoldo Hernandez and Bruce Young have coordinated the program with Renee Sherrard-Luther, director of the Freedom Hills 4-H Therapeutic Riding Center, a non-profit organization at the Rolling Hills Ranch in Port Deposit, Md.

The first eight-week session began last April for five patients from their early 30s to their late 60s. It was so successful that the medical center received funding for another session that began June 29 and included eight patients.

In deciding which patients to use in the riding program, Hernandez says that he and Young considered the diversity of patients and "we also had to think about the future of the program."

Disabilities of the patients in the program vary from organic brain syndrome, which impairs faculties because of advanced age or disease, and Huntington's chorea, an inherited neurological illness.

A pilot evaluation of the therapy found that all five patients "benefited from the program in varying degree by increased self-esteem and attention span." Two patients showed significant changes in self-confidence and in mastering independent skills.

One rider, William Choma, has Huntington's chorea. Hernandez says, "His self-esteem has improved 100%." After several weeks of riding, Choma was able to displace his body motion. This enabled him to ride the horse and be steady.

After only four weeks of riding, another patient, who has organic brain syndrome, was recommended for a discharge from the medical center. The patient's head nurse says the riding had some impact on the discharge recommendation.

That patient was one of three who returned to ride in the next eight-week session. In the first lesson, Mrs. Luther evaluated the riders. Later, she will re-evalute them.

Lessons consist of grooming and saddling and actual horseback riding. Exercises designed for each rider's disability are included. Volunteers assist Mrs. Luther during the lessons by leading horses and walking alongside the riders.

Mrs. Luther, 24, a certified riding instructor with a degree in recreational therapy, teaches for the "satisfaction of helping somebody a little less fortunate than I."

Bliss Brown, assistant executive director of the Cheff Center in Michigan, a facility for the handicapped where the riding instructors are trained in horsemanship and to be alert to various disabilities, says that when she talked with Hernandez about Perry Point's riding several months ago, she did not know of any other VAMCs with horseback riding programs. Recently, however, she says other centers, such as the one in Battle Creek, Mich., are introducing riding programs.

In addition, Hernandez says he is corresponding with other VAMCs about the horseback riding program and its benefits.

Hernandez and other staff members already have additional ideas for the program such as giving T-shirts to those who have completed the program and holding a riding program at Perry Point for families of patients to watch.

Hernandez would like the program to continue. "There's no reason why it can't work," he says.■

For his $723 purchase of a Buddy Poppy board honoring the memory of the 241 Marines killed in the Beirut bombing, Richard Knight, center, receives an award from Poppy Chairman Paul Martin and then Commander Richard Rogalski, of Post 2081, Whittier, Calif.

Joseph Alecks, a 50year member of Post 2091, Boston, receives an award from Charles A. MacGillivary, past CMH Society president, for his service to veterans.

Philip Jutras, right, curator of the Airborne Museum in Ste. Mere-Eglise, France, and member of Post 2016, Amesbury, Mass., receives a VFW cap from Commander Jack Smart.

Commander Henry Turner, of Post 8875, Coleman, Texas, presents a Flag to the Coleman Police Department and Reserves on Loyalty-Lau Day.

The sign and Flags announce the honoring of the 2,490 servicemen still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War by Post 6378, Dickinson, Texas. More than 200 attended the ceremonies.

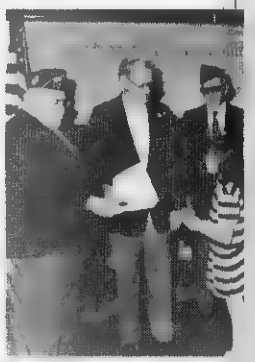
Dr. Randal Derifield, left, of the Saginaw, Mich., VA hospital, receives a VFW award from Post 4164, Caro, Mich., for his "exceptional treatment" of veterans. Hospital director Gary L. Wilkinson is making the presentation.

On extreme right, Commander Daniel Brewster, of Portage County, Ohio, Council, and Council Auxiliary President Joan Brewster pose with the family of Dale Allen Pearce, missing in Vietnam since 1971 and "adopted" by Post 9716.

The Flag is raised at Post 3253, Bay St. Louis, Miss., as the Post prepares to honor Vietnam veterans on Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day. QM Richard Brehm readies the Flag for raising as member Earl Salaun salutes.

Mr. and Mrs. James Lefler receive a plaque naming them as the 2,000th homebuyer in Veterans Village, New Port Richey, Fla. Making the presentation is Robert Kimpton, Vice President of Veterans Housing Corp., as Commander Donald Fisk, of Post 7987, looks on. Lefler is a new Post member.

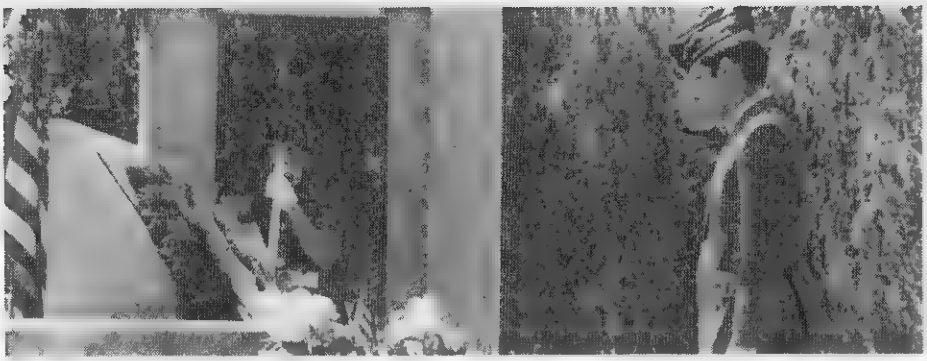
Post 3023, Grand Rapids, Mich., gears up to reach 1,000 members and push VFW beyond the 2,000,149 mark set in 1983-84.



Rhode Island State Poppy Chairman Ray Davis, left, receives Poppy Weekend proclamation from Gov. J. Joseph Garrahy, as Maura Davis presents him with a Poppy. Right is Post 272 SO Richard L. Connolly. Post 272 led state with 12,000 sales.

Kay Kaylor, center, news editor of the West Lane News, Elmira, Ore., receives an award from Florence Everhart, District 13 Auxiliary Buddy Poppy Chairman, and Troy Everhart, District 13 Buddy Poppy Chairman, for coverage of the annual sale. Also honored were KVAL-TV and KOZY-TV.

Commander David W. Hemminger, of Post 8180, Seoul, Korea, salutes after placing a floral wreath at the U.S. War Memorial at Yongsan Army Garrison in Seoul as part of memorial rites for the 58 U.S. servicemen killed along Korea's Demilitarized Zone since the end of the Korean War in 1953. (U.S. Army Photo.)



58 Killed on DMZ Remembered By Post 8180

THE JULY 27, 1953, ARMED TRUCE NEGOTIATED ON THE BATTLEFIELD ended three years' shooting in Korea.

Its failure to lead to a lasting peace keeps alive the confrontation along the 151 miles of Korea's Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

Since the truce went into effect more than three decades ago, 58 American servicemen have been killed on and along the DMZ no-man's land by North Koreans.

Their supreme sacrifice was remembered by Post 8180. in Seoul, South Korea.

Post 8180 conducted memorial rites for the two victims of the axe murders in 1976 at Panmunjom, for whom the Post is named, Maj. Arthur G. Bonifas and Lt. Mark T. Barrett, and the 56 other U.S. servicemen who were killed defending against North Korean hostilities since 1953.

Floral tributes were laid at the U.S. War Memorial on Yongsan Main Post in Seoul. Representatives of VFW District 3 (Korea) and Commander David W. Hemminger, of Post 8180, were joined by Gen. William J. Livsey, commander-in-chief of the United Nations Command/ROK-US Combined Forces Command/U.S. Forces Korea/8th U.S. Army, and other members of his command and the Korean Veterans Association in this tribute.

It was the second year that Post 8180 sponsored the ceremony.

Maj. Bonifas and Lt. Barrett were slain by axe-wielding North Korean security guards who attacked a small UN Command guard force protecting a work party that was pruning a poplar tree at the Joint Security Area at Panmunjom.

The two officers were killed, four U.S. enlisted guards were injured and one Republic of Korea Army officer and four Korean soldiers were injured in the attack. ■

UN Command Honor Guard soldiers act as Color Guard for the VFW memorial for 58 U.S. servicemembers killed along Korea's Demilitarized Zone since 1953. (U.S. Army Photo.)

Department Commanders-of-the-Month

October

DIV. I
Christopher Tsilis (2)
Illinois

DIV. II
Patrick Bohmer (2)
Minnesota

DIV. III
Max Tank, Jr. (2)
Wisconsin

DIV. IV
Casimir (Charles)
Lukoski (2)
Maryland

DIV. V
Darrel Miller (2)
Iowa

DIV. VI
Alva D. Nash
Louisiana

DIV. VII
John T. McIsaac (2)
Maine

DIV. VIII
Michael Ryan
Vermont

DIV. IX
Robert Smith (2)
Alaska

DIV. X
Michael L. Sullivan (2)
Pacific Area

Order of Parade

Standings are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters through Oct. 31, 1984.

NATIONAL AVERAGE — 66.08%

1	Alaska	80.33
2	Iowa	73.57
3	Minnesota	73.03
4	Maryland	72.21
5	Michigan	70.90
6	Kansas	70.79
7	Wisconsin	70.69
8	Indiana	70.34
9	Virginia	70 23
10	Nebraska	69 92
11	Maine	69.61
12	Vermont	69 46
13	Illinois	69.25
14	Ohio	68 35
15	North Dakota	68 23
16	Louisiana	67.93
17	South Dakota	67 83
18	California	67.71
19	New Jersey	66.38
20	Arizona	66 33
21	Florida	66.30
22	Rhode Island	65.73
23	Montana	65.41
24	Pacific Area	65.37
25	Delaware	65.01
26	Washington	65.00
27	Oregon	64.86
28	New York	64.81
29	Connecticut	64.65
30	Missouri	64.63
31	Mississippi	64 54
32	Colorado	64.33
33	Arkansas	64 13
34	North Carolina	64.05
35	West Virginia	63 65
36	Pennsylvania	63.38
37	Wyoming	63.35
38	Hawaii	63 19
39	New Mexico	62.93
40	Massachusetts	62.37
41	New Hampshire	61.65
42	District of Columbia	61.46
43	Texas	61.16
44	Idaho	60.94
45	Kentucky	60.48
46	Nevada	60 07
47	Oklahoma	59.86
48	Alabama	59 70
49	Georgia	58.86
50	South Carolina	58.20
51	Tennessee	56 05
52	Panama Canal	52.45
53	Utah	51.75
LAST	Germany	43.08

Marty

District Commanders-of-the-Month

October

DIV. I
District 8
Indiana
Wilford McDaniel (2)

DIV. II
District 3
Indiana
John Leary (2)

DIV. III
District 6
Kansas
Jack Krager (2)

DIV. IV
District 10
Iowa
Jean W. Wallace (2)

DIV. V
District 3
Louisiana
Stanley Breaux (2)

DIV. VI
District 2
Michigan
Henry J. Robak

DIV. VII
District 8
South Dakota
Allen Soesbe (2)

DIV. VIII
District 14
Arkansas
Perry Hickman (2)

(Parenthetical number indicates times Commander has won this honor.)

Post Commanders-of-the-Month

DIV. I
Post 1114
Indiana
Orbit Scott (2)

DIV. II
Post 2539
Mississippi
Clifford Horn

DIV. III
Post 6240
Kansas
A.L. Hall (2)

DIV. IV
Post 673
Indiana
Gerald S. Meyer (2)

DIV. V
Post 2743
Virginia
Walter G. Bryan

DIV. VI
Post 8463
Florida
Nicholas A. Duva

DIV. VII
Post 4667
Virginia
Marshall E. Guy (2)

DIV. VIII
Post 7720
Georgia
George McEntire

DIV. IX
Post 8510
Minnesota
George Novak, Jr. (2)

DIV. X
Post 1550
Indiana
Felix Knauer

DIV. XI
Post 3941
Michigan
Richard G. Dixon

DIV. XII
Post 10252
Alaska
Vernon L. Jones

DIV. XIII
Post 4222
Louisiana
Lovelace J. Michel

DIV. XIV
Post 5032
Georgia
J.E. Land

DIV. XV
Post 4159
Michigan
Glen N. Henderson (2)

DIV. XVI
Post 5573
Mississippi
Clarence D. Dorman

DIV. XVII
Post 10210
Florida
Roy L. Kinney, Jr.

DIV. XVIII
Post 109
Maine
Everett Dorr

DIV. XIX
Post 10688
Connecticut
Carlton W. Glennon (2)

DIV. XX
Post 2728
Kentucky
Larry Hicks

(Parenthetical number indicates times Commander has won this honor.)

Marty

Post of 1,000 Members or More

Recorded as of Oct. 9, 1984

Place	Post No.	Location	1984-85 Membership
1	1114	Evansville, Ind.	3,147
2	3579	Park Ridge, Ill.	1,856
3	628	Sioux Falls, S.D.	1,785
4	1308	Alton, Ill.	1,665
5	47	Uniontown, Pa.	1,608
6	5555	Richfield, Minn.	1,519
7	360	Mishawaka, Ind.	1,486
8	1146	St. Clair Shores, Mich.	1,474
9	131	Lincoln, Neb.	1,437
10	1296	Bloomington, Minn.	1,382
11	1064	Huntington, W. Va.	1,333
12	49	Mobile, Ala.	1,327
13	2539	Gulfport, Miss.	1,326
14	6704	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	1,314
15	2290	Manville, N.J.	1,301
16	1273	Rapid City, S.D.	1,266
17	6506	Rosedale, Md.	1,243
18	1599	Chambersburg, Pa.	1,228
19	4372	Odessa, Texas	1,206
20	3962	Corinth, Miss.	1,205
21	367	Joliet, Ill.	1,205
22	1989	Indiana, Pa.	1,182
23	6240	Russell, Kans.	1,163
24	2100	Everett, Wash.	1,144
25	6975	Bristol, Va.	1,142
26	401	Albuquerque, N.M.	1,133
27	379	Yakima, Wash.	1,123
28	1275	Lima, Ohio	1,112
29	4057	Tupelo, Miss.	1,097
30	969	Tacoma, Wash.	1,095
31	6640	Metairie, La.	1,094
32	447	Albert Lea, Minn.	1,082
33	9619	Morningside, Md.	1,073
34	249	Butler, Pa.	1,068
35	1621	Janesville, Wis.	1,067
36	7987	New Port Richey, Fla.	1,062
37	1810	Brentwood, Pa.	1,060
38	5632	St. Louis Park, Minn.	1,048
39	2199	Joliet, Ill.	1,045
40	4087	Davidson, Minn.	1,037
41	1736	Alexandria, La.	1,030
42	1079	Elyria, Ohio	1,027
43	549	Tucson, Ariz.	1,025
44	1865	Kenosha, Wis.	1,016
45	6796	Dallas, Texas	1,012
46	2503	Omaha, Neb.	1,008
47	3851	Carmi, Ill.	1,000
48	1650	Topeka, Kans.	1,000

National Aides-de-Camp

The following VFW members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of September, 1984. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new or reinstated members, or any combination of both totalling 50.

Thomas E. Ramsey, Post 1590, Ormond, Fla.; John Best, Post 891, Asheville, N.C.; John J. Hiller, Post 4171, Golden, Colo.

Post in Japan Active

By Sp4 Mary Boudreaux

At Camp Zama, Japan, Post 9612 is a lot more than a war veteran's social club, according to newly-installed Commander Paul Morgan.

"It is a place to gather and talk to our comrades-in-arms, but we are really more oriented toward community service," said Morgan. "Some people relate to the VFW as just a place for vets to get together and have a drink. But we probably do more for the community than any other private organization," he said.

Morgan, a member of the VFW since 1950 now in his second term as Post Commander, feels it is important to note the services the VFW provides the military community and to veterans. "I saw the benefits the VFW provides to the communities where Posts are located and that's when I became actively involved," said Morgan. "It's pretty hard not to participate when you see the benefits afforded by this type of organization in community projects and to those less fortunate."

At Camp Zama, Post 9612 is busy in many community areas. "We award a $1,000 high school schorlarship each year and sponsor the Voice of Democracy contest that carries with it another $1,000 schorlarship," said Morgan. The VOD contest requires high school seniors to write and present three to five-minute speeches on the role of democracy in the United States. Winners at the Zama level earn $1,000 and can then move on to District, Department and National VFW levels to earn as much as $14,000 in school aide.

In addition to scholarship funds, the VFW Post sponsors a Boy Scout Troop and a Cub Scout Pack. "We provide whatever assistance, financially or whatever, is necessary," said Morgan. Often assistance is in the form of creating projects for scouts to work on to earn required badges.

Foreign-born members of the Camp Zama military community have earned their American citizenship with the help of Post 9612. The Post sponsors American citizenship classes during the year consisting of instruction in American history, government and the fundamentals of the English language.

Annually, the Post organizes a blood drive for use at the Yokosuka blood bank.

For youngsters, a bicycle safety class is conducted each year and safety decals are distributed to the attending children.

The Post's services extend beyond Camp Zama, though. Post 9612 conducts the Buddy Poppy program throughout the year with a concentrated effort in May. Funds raised are sent to the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, Mich. "The children's home provides both a home and education for orphans of veterans," said Morgan.

While largely dedicated to aiding the community, "the VFW is one of the few veterans' groups, because of its strength, I suppose, that is actively involved in helping retain veteran benefits at the national level," said Morgan.

"When veterans' benefits appear to be eroding, we go on record nationally saying we oppose that," said Morgan. In addition to these legislative services, the VFW assists members at the Post, State and National levels in filing claims and gaining information on hospital care, education, pensions and other entitlements.

Camp Zama, Post 9612 members receive benefits throughout the year that include social gatherings like Christmas and New Year parties, summer outings and detailed information on VFW benefits and related matters.

At Camp Zama, meetings are held once a month and are structured much like any military organization.

New members are always welcome, but Morgan is quick to point out that certain criteria exist to become a member: Overseas service for which a campaign medal is awarded, American citizenship and an honorable discharge unless the applicant is still in the service.

Vietnam

Payback: Five Marines After Vietnam by Joe Klein, Knopf, 351 pages, $17.95. A truly extraordinary look at the post-Vietnam lives of five who returned. Klein uses as a jumping off point the death of Gary Cooper, a vet long frustrated by joblessnes and further angered by the tumultuous public reception for the returned Iranian hostages. Cooper had gone berserk and died in a shootout with the police. In his research, Klein found several members of Cooper's old unit and pieces together an outstanding chronology of Cooper's life and four others who served with him.

The Long Way Home by Alan Ebert, Crown, 472 pages, $16.95. Based on extensive research and personal interviews with Vietnam veterans and veterans organizations, *The Long Way Home* is a fictional account that focuses on the lives of two brothers: one a fighter pilot and POW, the other an Army private gone AWOL.

Let a Soldier Die by William E. Holland, 334 pages, $15.95. *Let a Soldier Die* is the story of a helicopter pilot whose accidental killing of American soldiers leads to his examination of the war and his role in it.

Bloods: An Oral Account of the Vietnam War by Black Veterans by Terry Wallace, Random House, 311 pages, $17.95. These first-person narratives of 20 black voices relates the uniqueness of the black experience in Vietnam and how they have come to terms with the war.

Korea

The Pusan Perimeter by Edwin P. Hoyt, Stein and Day, 310 pages, $19.95. A recreation of the first three months of the Korean War when the ill trained South Korean army, aided by hastily assembled group of American forces, attempted to stem the relentless push of the North Korean assault.

World War II

Yank: The Story of World War II as Written by the Soldiers by the Staff of *Yank*, the Army Weekly, Greenwich House, 262 pages. From the pages of *Yank*, this collection of articles from the period is sure to bring back memories for many veterans.

Panzers in Normandy: Then and Now by Eric Lefevre, After the Battle, 212 pages, $31. Fully illustrated, this reconstruction of the tank battles of Normandy in 1944 retraces the movements of Allies and Germans and recaptures photographically scenes of the fighting as they appeared 40 years ago and now.

Operation Barbarossa: Strategy and Tactics on the Eastern Front, 1941 by Bryan I. Fugate, Presidio Press, 415 pages, $22.50. When Hitler invaded the USSR in 1941 after entering into a treaty with the Russians in 1939, beginning WW II, he spelled his own doom. Fugate reviews the first year of the Eastern Front when Hitler nearly defeated the Soviets.

General Interest

The Presidential Quotient by Wayne Samuel Kurzeja, Chicago Review Press, 187 pages, $5.95. Think you know a lot about Presidents, their families and details of their lives, do you? Read this book and you will find out just how little you really know. It is packed with fascinating trivia. Quizzes help you test your knowledge.

I, Martha Adams by Pauline Glen Winslow, St. Martin's Press, 340 pages, $12.95. The USSR has blasted our missile sites and the Russians have seized control of the government. What's a housewife to do? Martha Adams, the title character, learns of the existence of a superweapon and with a little help from some friends races against time and Russians to find it first.

Inside Soviet Military Intelligence by Viktor Suvorov, MacMillan, 208, $15.95. An insider's look at the GRU, the Soviet Union's top-secret military intelligence organization.

War Cartoons, 1914-1918 by Norman Lindsay, edited by Peter Fullerton, Melbourne University Press, no price listed, 251 pages. Cartoons in this collection were taken from the Melbourne, Australia, Bulletin. Lindsay was a master of his field.

A Family Guide to Estate Planning, Funeral Arrangements and Settling an Estate After Death by Theodore E. Hughes and David Klein, Scribners, $15.95, 258 pages. An easy-to-read reference book full of valuable information for estate planning and disposition.

Ten Buck BUCKS

Hand Crafted in Europe with genuine
Suede Leather Upper and Real Rubber Soles!

New "Magic Cling"™ Closure!

Wow! 10 bucks gets you rich, real suede leather uppers, softer than a baby's you know what! *10 bucks gets you soft-step, real rubber soles that will last you to Alaska & back, one step at a time.* 10 bucks gets you your choice of adjustable "Magic Cling"™ strap style or slip-on-easy loafers. They're all more comfortable than your favorite easy chair. In fact, 10 Bucks gets you the BEST SHOE VALUE in the WORLD!

Also available in traditional Easy-on Loafer

2 Pairs Shoes Only
19.95
3 pair 29.75
4 pair 39.50

SUEDE LEATHER BUCKS

HABAND 265 N. 9th St., Paterson, N.J. 07530

O.K. Send me.....pairs of shoes for which I enclose $.....plus $1.95 for postage and handling.

Or Charge It: ☐Visa ☐MasterCard Exp.Date:...../.....

Acct.#.....

817-41Y

NAME.....

STREET.....

CITY & STATE.....ZIP.....

FIND YOUR SIZE HERE
Medium Width: 6½-7-7½-8-8½-9-9½-10-10½-11-12-13

41Y	COLOR	HOW MANY?	WHAT SIZE?
A	GREY with Magic Cling™		
E	NAVY LOAFER		
D	RUST LOAFER		
B	SAND with Magic Cling™		

Guarantee: If on receipt I do not wish to wear the shoes, I may return them within 30 days for a full refund of every penny I paid you.

Veterans Memorial Was Community Effort

Chairman G.V. Montgomery (Miss.), of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, center, joins in the dedication of the Lamar County, Miss., War Memorial in Purvis on Memorial Day. With him are Lyman Fillingame, head of the county historical society; Commander Z.A. Foshee, Jr., of Post 3955; Leonard L. Slade, Jr., project chairman and Post member, and retired Brig. Gen. Robert Marin, Jr.50

WHEN THE LAMAR COUNTY WAR MEMORIAL MONUMENT, honoring the area's dead from both World Wars and the Korean and Vietnam Wars, was dedicated in Purvis, Miss., on Memorial Day, it was the culmination of a more than year-long project that enlisted the support of Post 3955 and several other organizations.

"We feel this monument is long overdue," said Leonard Slade, Sr., a member of Post 3955 and chairman of the Lamar County Historical Society's war memorial project. "We just want to show our thanks and appreciation to the men and women who gave so much during the last four wars."

The blue granite monument, valued at well over $60,000, is an eight-sided pillar topped with a golden eagle. Flanked on either side by flag poles, one for the state flag, the other for the United States Flag, the monument was completed at a cost of $35,000. The names of 106 Lamar Countians who died during the wars are engraved upon four sides of the octagon.

"We gave each war an equal part on the monument," said Slade. "Each side is dedicated to a specific war."

The project began with the Lamar County Historcial Society, but soon spread throughout civic clubs and organizations that helped with fundraising.

"Our goal was set at $20,000," said Slade. "We received donations from $1 to $7,000. Private individuals, auctions, Flag sales, anything we

Donna McGuyer

could think of went into raising the money.

"I think one of the good things about this project was the way the whole county pulled together. Clubs and organizations would hold special sales and fundraisers and designate the money for the monument. Every phase, from fundraising to construction, was done by Lamar Countians. The monument is really a gift to Lamar County veterans by Lamar Countians."

Although the final amount raised was nearly $25,000, the project developed into much more. It became a plan for a small park as the County Board of Supervisors donated land on the Courthouse lawn. As work began on the monument, the supervisors decided to replace the sidewalks in front of the monument and to landscape the Courthouse lawn.

Then private business chipped in. Cement for the monument foundations and sidewalks was donated by Breland Ready Mix, a locally-owned company. The monument itself was constructed and engraved by the American Monument Co. at cost. Mr. and Mrs. David McArthur, owners of the monument company located in Lamar County, donated the engraving on the monument.

Not only was the monument a county-wide effort, but the Memorial Day festivities also were county-wide. Beginning early Monday morning, a display of military equipment was brought in by U.S. servicemen. The largest helicopter in the free world and the Army's Super Jeep were among the items on display.

A parade began at 2 p.m., led by a 100-member marching band composed of students from every school in the county. Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, provided the guest message and county and city dignitaries graced the speakers' stand. Special seating was provided during the open-air ceremony for veterans present and families of the war dead. Every veteran was given a red carnation, which was later placed in a wreath at the base of the monument. Gold Star Mothers also received special flowers.

Slade presented the names of Lamar Countians who served and provided the audience with background information on each. At the close of the service, National Guardsmen presented a 21-gun salute, followed by "Taps."

From start to finish, the project was Lamar Countians demonstrating love and concern. Even the monument's design was that of a native Lamar Countian, James Aultman. The inscription on the monument was composed by the War Monument Committee and native Lamar Countian Earlene McDermott. It expresses the deep sentiment of Lamar Countians:

"If freedom and liberty is to be preserved, it will not be by doubters. Therefore, we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and success of liberty. From these honored dead, we take increase dedication to that cause for which they gave their last measure of devotion, that we standing here highly resolve that these shall not have died in vain."

This lasting monument to veterans in Lamar County, Miss., stands not only in stone but rests in the hearts of all who joined to produce this solemn tribute. ■

NATIONAL HOME

Q-What is the National Home's annual budget? What are the major expenses?

A-The annual budget is approximately $3 million a year. Largest single expense is wages and benefits, about 35% of the budget. A significant number of dollars is spent each year on producing the Seals fund raising program. Other major expenditures include utilities, supplies, groceries and insurance.

Q-Does the Home have a problem with sex, drugs, runaways?

A-Children residing at the Home are not isolated from the larger community. For this reason, it would be expected that they would participate in both positive and negative events. All adults raising young people in the 1980s are faced with drug use/misuse, promiscuity and running away. Staff and parents residing at the National Home are no different. Their problems are typical, given the number of young people living at the Home and given the background that many seem to have. The Home staff is working actively to prevent destructive ways of participating in today's world and with the Eaton Rapids community to confront the problem on a broader scale than simply the Home campus.

Q-How many National Home employees are there?

A-There are 67 fulltime staff at the Home. This includes drivers, a farm manager, counselors, houseparents and others. In addition, several more are parttime employees. Specialists are contracted for particular services. For example, a psychologist and dentist give specialized services to the youth on campus.

Q-Does the National Home have oil wells on its property?

A-Currently, the National Home has two oil wells and three natural gas wells on the property in Eaton Rapids. The mineral rights for the land have been leased to an oil company. The Home, therefore, receives a royalty interest from whatever is taken off the property. Less than 5% of the Home's annual budget comes from the oil and gas revenues from these wells, plus producing wells bequeatheed to the National Home some years ago. The wells on the National Home property are expected to be exhausted in another three years. Replacement income will therefore have to come from other sources.

Q-How is the Board of Trustees elected and what is its function?

A-The Board of Trustees has the overall responsibility for the management and operation of the VFW National Home. It consists of 12 elected members plus the current Commander-in-Chief of the VFW and the current National President of the Ladies Auxiliary. The board members are elected for six-year terms. Two members are elected each year by the active life members of the National Home.

Q-What is the purpose of the National Home?

A-The National Home is maintained for the care and education of members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars or its Ladies Auxiliary. It provides help in times of need to children whose parents are deceased, disabled or for some other reason unable to provide a satisfactory home life.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Prescription Drug, Vitamin Discounts

Through special arrangement with National Pharmacies, Inc., VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members may be able to save 30% to 40% and more on prescription drugs and vitamins.

Substantial Savings can be yours because of a huge volume. With thousands of orders filled every day, prescription drugs and vitamins can be purchased in large quantities and huge discounts passed along to members. Reduced overhead is made possible by computerized record-keeping, automated processing and other administrative efficiencies which further help bring prices down.

Convenience is something everyone seems to value these days. You need go no further than your mailbox to have your prescription filled or to order your vitamins. Just mail the prescription and/or vitamin order in the pre-addressed envelope which is provided when you enroll.

Highest Professional Standards and Procedures are applied. Your prescription is first screened by a pharmacist immediately upon its arrival. Another pharmacist reviews your prescription against your Patient Profile Card and communicates with your prescribing physician should there appear to be a problem. Still another pharmacist dispenses the prescription and a fourth pharmacist from the Quality Control Department checks it before it is sent to you. Similar quality is given orders for vitamins, including the monitoring of the purity and potency of every ingredient.

Within 48 Hours of receipt of your order, your prescription drugs and vitamins will be mailed post-paid to your home, and they carry a 30-day unconditional guarantee.

ABSOLUTELY NO COST TO YOU TO ENROLL

Free Registration. Free Drug and Vitamin Catalogs. Free I.D. Card. To register for this outstanding program or for more information, write directly to: National Pharmacies, Inc., P.O. Box 1000, Elmwood Park, N.J. 07407. Be certain to identify yourself as a VFW or Ladies Auxiliary member.

"Cher Ami"

By Walter Harter

A small blue-gray bird saved the lives of almost 500 men in the famous "Lost Battalion," part of the AEF's 77th Division in, World War I.

Not only was this particular homing pigeon presented with the Croix de Guerre by the French government, it was personally commended by Gen. John J. Pershing, the AEF's commander.

The scene was the Meuse-Argonne, one of the most bitterly fought battles of that first world-wide conflict and the largest in which Americans had ever fought up to then.

The hero was "Cher Ami," one of 600 birds donated by racing pigeon fanciers of Great Britain for use in France, and trained by the American Signal Corps.

Orders reached the 77th Division on the dreary gray morning of Oct. 2, 1918, to attack and to hold some forward positions "at all costs."

Maj. Charles W. Whittlesey was given command of companies of the 308th Infantry and K Co. of the 307th and told to do the job. The men fought valiantly all that gloomy day, and by late afternoon had reached their objectives. They dug in, threw out advance posts, and waited for morning and reinforcements.

But on that next morning they discovered that, although the expected help had arrived during the night, the troops had fallen back again and both flanks had been taken by the enemy. Maj. Whittlesey and his men were surrounded by Germans. He had 554 men and rations for only one day.

During the entire day of Oct. 3, the men clung to their shallow trenches under terrific German fire. By the end of that day, they had lost a fourth of their comrades. They had neither medical officer nor surgeon to allay the suffering of the wounded, and their communication system had been smashed.

Volunteers, who tried to creep through the lines with messages for help, were killed or captured. Finally they sent out the homing pigeons they had brought with them. One by one the first six birds were dispatched into the air, only to be picked off by German marksmen.

By Oct. 4, American artillerymen, trying to break up the German concentration, were accidentally dumping huge quantities of shells directly on the "Lost Battalion" of their own army.

This is what the old New York World printed about what happened next:

"There was only one pigeon left, and that was Cher Ami. The officers of the battalion wrote this message: 'For God's sake lift your fire!' added the location of their small force and put the scrap of paper into the metal carrier attached to the bird's leg. Then they released their last pigeon and final hope into the death-ridden air.

"Cher Ami took off like a shot. The soldiers watched anxiously. The bird was hit. They saw the valiant flyer falter, then plunge to the ground. To their amazement they watched while the small bird struggled into the air again. It hovered for a moment, then sped away.

"A short time later 'Cher Ami' fluttered down on the pigeon loft at the town of Rampont, It was little more than a blood-smeared ball of feathers. One of its wings was shot through, and one leg was gone. The metal carrier was hanging from the long ligaments.

"But he had saved the "Lost Battalion,' or what was left of it. The artillery barrage was lifted, and the Americans advanced and succeeded in saving 194 of Maj. Whittesey's command.

The heroic bird was given the best of medical care. And when the transport Ohioan brought Cher Ami back to the United States on April 6, 1919, his wounds more or less healed, not only did Gen. Pershing hold him in his hand before the boat sailed, but ordered that the Argonne hero be lodged in an officer's cabin.

Cher Ami spent the rest of his life in comfortable accommodations at the Signal Corps Headquarters, Fort Monmouth, N.J. When he died on June 13, 1920, his small body was mounted and taken to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. It has since been transfered to the U.S. National Museum, where it is on display and honored daily by thousands of people as one of the heroes of World War I.

For his heroism, Maj. Whittlesey was awarded the Medal of Honor. His citation concludes, "On the fourth day, Maj. Whittlesey received from the enemy a written proposition to surrender, which he treated with contempt..."■

Let the Little Rascal become your symbol of

INDEPENDENCE!

- Need help getting around? Stroke? Arthritis? Mobility problems? The Little Rascal goes everywhere, at home, shopping, up hills, through parks, restaurants, work.
- Compact, portable, lightweight. Fits in your car trunk or back seat.
- Recharges overnight.
- Rascal is eligible for Medicare Reimbursement when prescribed by a doctor.

CALL OR MAIL FOR FREE BOOKLET TODAY!

FOR A FREE COLOR BOOKLET AND 10th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL OFFERS WRITE OR CALL:

ELECTRIC MOBILITY CORP.
DEPT. 1227, 591 MANTUA BLVD.
SEWELL, NJ 08080

For immediate information call Toll Free

1-800-662-4548

DECEMBER SPECIALS

FROM Northern Hydraulics DISCOUNT PARTS & EQUIPMENT

Item #1128

LOG SPLITTER SALE!

12½ Ton, Item #1128, (Low speed wheels)..... .....$729
With high speed wheels, Item #1125..... .....$749
15½ Ton, Item #1132 or #1130 (High or low profile splitters)
Your choice for only.....$869
24½ Ton, (Low profile) Item #1142..... ...$1399
(High Profile Splitter) Item #1140.....$1599

WE HAVE A FULL LINE OF SPLITTERS FROM 8 to 35 TON OR ALL THE PARTS & INSTRUCTIONS TO BUILD YOUR OWN!

LOG SPLITTER/HYDRAULIC PARTS

WELDED CYLINDERS
4"bore x 24"stroke x 2"shaft, Can go UPS. Item #902424....$119.95

TIE ROD CYLINDERS
3½"bore x 24"stroke x 1½"shaft, Item #909324.....$108.00
5"bore x 24"stroke x 2"shaft, Item #909524.....$222.00
5"bore x 30"stroke x 2"shaft, Item #909530.....$240.00

2 STAGE PUMPS
11 Gal., @ 3600 RPM use with 5 HP motor, 7/16"shaft #1010....$111
13.2 Gal., use with 5 HP motor ½" shaft Item# 1013.....$129
16 Gal., use with 8 HP motor, Item# 1015.... .....$157
22 Gal. use with 10 HP+ and 5" or larger cylinder Item# 1017.. $248

STANDARD 4-WAY CONTROL VALVE

Item#	Sh.Wt	Price
2010	8Lbs.	$45.50

TARPS
Strong Polyethylene

Item#	Size	Sh.Wt	Price
1770	6'x 8'	3 lbs.	$4.75
1771	8'x 10'	4 lbs	6 85
1772	10'x 12'	4 lbs.	10.75
1773	12'x 16'	8 lbs.	16.50
1774	12'x 20'	11 lbs	20.00
1775	16'x 20'	12 lbs.	26.75
1776	20'x 30'	23 lbs	50.00
1777	30'x 40'	39 lbs	86.50
1778	30'x 50'	49 lbs	99.00

GAS ENGINES Horizontal Shaft

5 HP Tecumseh, Item# 6051 Only.....$139.95
5 HP Briggs, Item# 6052 Only.....$144.95
8 HP Tecumseh, (Cast iron sleeve) #6081.....$192.95
8 HP Briggs, (Recoil) Item#6080 Only.....$215 95
10 HP Tecumseh, 1" shaft, recoil start, #6010...$232.95
10 HP Tecumseh, 1"shaft elec start, Item# 60101....$278 95

WE CARRY A HUGE SUPPLY OF 3-20 HP ENGINES IN STOCK!

Northern Hydraulics
801 East Cliff Road, Burnsville, MN 55337
Log Splitters & Parts
Air Compressors and Tools
Gas Engines and Generators
Trailer Parts and Tarps
Lawn and Garden Power Products
Use Your VISA
OUTSIDE MN
ORDER TOLL-FREE
1-800-533-5545
OR IN MN
512-894-8310
MasterCard or Visa

FREE 100 page discount catalog!

Discount Prices on Hydraulics, Gas Engines, Splitter Components, Electrical, Supplies, Trailer Parts, Truck Parts, Tools And More!
Or Send $6.00 for Catalog & Log Splitter Design Book!
Dept.#176124

Name
Address
City State Zip

Agent Orange Filing Date Deadline

Deadline for filing to participate in the out of court settlement in the case against seven Agent Orange manufacturers is rapidly approaching.

Veterans exposed to the herbicide used in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War must file applications by Jan. 2, 1985, to be included.

To obtain applications or other information, call toll-free 1-800-645-1355 or if you are calling from New York, dial toll-free 1-800-832-1303.

All you have to do is to give the operator your name, address, Social Security number and zip code and you will be sent an application.

Information to be included on the three-page application is how long you served in Vietnam, where, whether and when you saw Agent Orange being sprayed, the dates, previous medical records of Agent Orange's effects and whether any of your children were born with Agent Orange-related defects or died as a result of your exposure to the herbicide.

Although the deadline for filing applications has been extended in the past, Agent Orange operators indicated the Jan. 2 date would be the final one. Failure to return the form by then will prevent you from getting money from the settlement fund. The application must be sent to the Agent Orange Computer Center, P.O. Box 905, Smithtown, N.Y. 11787.

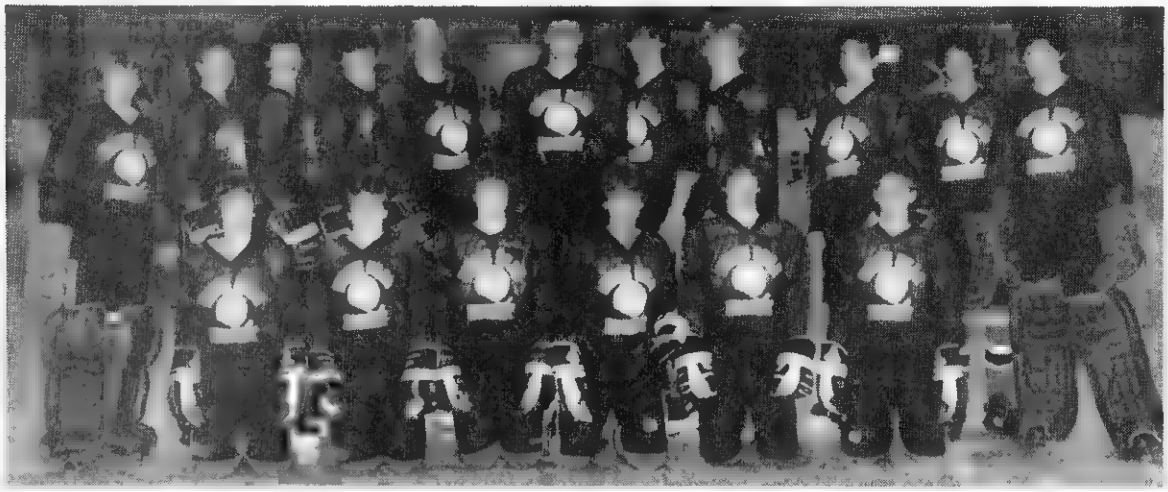
Currieo Named Aide to Walters

Past Commander-in-Chief James R. (Bob) Currieo has been appointed special assistant to VA Administrator Harry N. Walters.

Currieo, who was Commander-in-Chief of the two-million member VFW in 1982-83, will be responsible for promoting veterans programs with civic organizations and veterans' groups nationwide. In carrying out his responsibilities, he will visit VA field installations throughout the country.

In making the announcement, Walters said, "Bob is going to represent me as an ambassador of good will on behalf of our veterans. With his military background and long association with a major veterans organization, he is extremely sensitive to the needs of our veterans who have helped make this country number one."

Minnesota hockey champions, White Bear Lake, pose for this group shot after winning the Department Bantam A tournament in Fergus Falls. Several alumni of the VFW hockey program in Minnesota were on the 1980 and 1984 U.S. Olympic team and at least 14 are on NHL teams. (George Myers Photo.)



HOCKEY'S IN THE AIR

DECEMBER is here and it is back to the skates, sticks and pucks as the VFW Department of Minnesota Bantam A hockey program gets underway for its 30th year.

Even though the season is beginning, with its schedule of 50 to 60 games, the 1983-84 records are the ones the youngsters will be aiming at.

When the trophies were awarded last March at the conclusion of the tournament at Fergus Falls, major Department officers were on hand and National Headquarters also was represented.

White Bear Lake won first place after defeating Bloomington Jefferson, 5 to 4. Rochester won third place by edging Roseau, 3 to 2. Consolation honors went to Grand Rapids after downing South St. Paul, 7 to 6, in overtime.

More than 150 players from 10 teams, including the host, gathered in Fergus Falls for the tournament. Next year's scheduled for Hastings.

Then Department Commander Joseph Jeanette presented runnerup awards to Bloomington Jefferson. The first place trophy was awarded White Bear Lake by Charles Loftus, Department Youth Director, and Rebel Steen, Department Hockey Chairman. Grand Rapids received the consolation award from James K. Anderson, editor of the VFW Magazine.

Prior to the ceremonies, Post 612's Heritage Color Guard, composed of Fergus Falls members wearing American uniforms typical of historical periods, presented the colors. ■

Department youth and hockey officials, Charles Loftus and Rebel Steen, present the first place trophy to the White Bear Lake champs. (George Myers Photo.)

Then Department Commander Joseph Jeanette awards medals to the tournament runnerup, Bloomington Jefferson. (George Myers Photo.)

Florida... for the best of your life

When you buy your home and homesite at Barefoot Bay (an Avatar Properties community), you can buy with a nice easy feeling of security. At Barefoot Bay, we stand behind every home we sell.

At Barefoot Bay, you will own your mobile home and the land on which it stands. No monthly rent payments here. Your handsome home will be in the midst of a gracious country club setting surrounded by green belt areas, mini-parks and recreational facilities. The luxurious lakefront clubhouse features game and card rooms, a cocktail lounge, a catering kitchen and a 5,400 square foot auditorium and community activities center

Recreational activities are almost endless: an 18-hole golf course, 26 shuffleboard courts, two swimming pools (both heated in winter), tennis courts, bowling greens and two fresh water lakes for fishing, rowing and sailing. Add to this a 776 foot fishing pier stretching out into the picturesque Indian River, and across the river, a strand of glorious beach on the Atlantic Ocean for the exclusive use of Barefoot Bay residents and their guests.

All mobile home communities are not created equal — we believe Barefoot Bay is many cuts above the rest. We also believe you'll agree.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Avatar Properties Inc.
P.O. Box 523000, Miami, Florida 33152
Please send me more information about Barefoot Bay.

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

BAREFOOT BAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
OWNER/BUILDER/BROKER
U.S. 1 & Barefoot Blvd., Barefoot Bay, Florida 32958
Midway Between Melbourne & Vero Beach
(305) 589-3141

VF /D

Command Post

continued from page 5

Home. A trust fund for $20,000 had been established for a home the previous year from part of the proceeds of the extra game of the 1922 World Series. (This is a fascinating story in itself.)

Because a Michigan woman, Amy Ross, widow of a sergeant stationed at Fort Wayne, near Detroit, had

worked so hard until her own death in 1924 to find jobs for 9,000 unemployed World War I veterans, Corey J. Spencer, owner of a 472-acre stock farm near Eaton Rapids, offered the property to Dr. Clarence L. Candler, VFW Michigan Department Commander, in the summer of 1924. At the 1924 National Convention, a committee was appointed and ordered to report to the National Council of Administration, which accepted the property the following December.

Beginning in March, 1925, the first of what would become a steady stream of residents were admitted to the Home, the widow and six children of a retired Army sergeant.

Architects' plans for a community of 1,500 inhabitants were drawn up and ground was broken in November, 1925, for the first new building on the Home's campus. Soon Departments began underwriting individual housing bearing their names.

Enthusiasm for the Home was infectious, as sales of Buddy Poppies climbed because a portion of the receipts, then as now, is earmarked for the Home. The Council in 1928 planned a $3.5 million Home trust fund to be created from the sale of a 12-volume collection of documents and firsthand accounts of events in this country's history called "America."

Virtually from the Home's inception, the Ladies Auxiliary has been a major factor in its success. An example of its early work was the construction of the Home's hospital, in addition to the aid in building campus housing.

The Great Depression, of course, had an adverse effect on the Home's financial health and the VFW itself increased its assistance. One method was adoption of the forerunner of the familiar Home Seals. This was a coin-like medallion VFW members bought for a quarter in the Christmas of 1933. Despite the economic troubles of the 1930s, the Home in 1935 paid off the $35,000 in mortgages on the property when the Council accepted it from Spencer.

During World War II, many of the Home's residents joined the service. By the time it was over 104 had served their country. During the Vietnam War, at least four Home residents were killed and are buried in the Home's alumni plot in Eaton Rapids' Rose Hill Cemetery.

With new approaches to child care, the Home has been able to adapt its methods to the latest developments, thanks to one of the nation's finest professional staffs in the field and the dedication of every VFW and Ladies Auxiliary member who supports the Home in all its efforts.

Next summer, the Home will mark its 60th anniversary with a wide variety of activities that will attract at least 200 alumni and vast numbers of VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members to the campus for the festivities.

Running through all the events, however, will be the theme summed up in the motto given us by Commander-in-Chief Robert Woodside in the early 1920s: "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living."

All of us can be proud of the way in which the VFW National Home has lived up to those words. It demonstrates that the VFW is "First...Serving America." ■

All-in-Ear Aid - Save $200+
Improve your hearing! Name brand aid helps you understand words you miss. If you hear but don't understand, this aid amplifies the sounds you need. Enjoy comfortable, attractive aid in your own home. FREE 30-day home trial. We promise no salesmen! Write today for free catalog! **J & M, Dept. 9-M 329 N. Third Street, DeKalb, IL 60115**

Oldest Vet Dies

Harry Chaloner, who at 110 years old was the oldest living war veteran, died on Oct. 30 at Bay Pines VA Medical Center in St. Petersburg, Fla.

A life member of Post 3588, Comrade Chaloner served under Teddy Roosevelt during the Spanish-American War. A near fatal bout with malaria kept him from making the famous charge up San Juan Hill.

When World War I broke out, he attempted to re-enlist in the Army but was told he was too old. He returned to his native Canada and served with the Candaian armed forces in Europe.

In 1973, then Commander-in-Chief Ray Soden appointed him a National Aide-de-Camp.

VA Gets New Chief Medical Director

Dr. John W. Ditzler, a VA physician with extensive administrative and clinical experience, has been selected as the agency's next chief medical director.

VA Administrator Harry N. Walters announced the appointment of Dr. Ditzler to head the nation's largest health care system. Dr. Ditzler was director of the San Diego VA Medical Center. He succeeds Dr. Donald L. Custis, who retired last May.

A board-certified anesthesiologist, Dr. Ditzler has both field and headquarters experience in the operation of VA's Department of Medicine and Surgery. Prior to becoming director of the San Diego facility, he managed the agency's medical budget, which exceeds $9 billion this year.

A World War II and Korean Conflict veteran, Dr. Ditzler served with the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1946 to 1953.

Aiding Vietnam Veterans

continued from page 26

vide a refundable book deposit of $35 to be returned upon leaving the program.

One graduate of the program counsels other veterans. He is Donald Andrews, 37, a four-year veteran of the Vietnam War.

"When I came back from Vietnam," he said. "I had a lot of add jobs. I loaded boxes and did factory work for a few years. I knew there was no future in these occupations. I was a high school drop out. If I was going to get a good job, I had to get a good education."

So, Andrews went through the Veterans Upward Bound Program and took the required subjects to earn a high school equivalency diploma, the GED.

Andrews then attended the Community College of Philadelphia and now he is wrapping up the course work for his degree in radio and television communications at Temple.

"I'm pretty bust right now," he said. "I don't have a lot of time. I'm working and going to school. I've gotten an enormous amount of satisfaction from helping the veterans in the program.

"Fred and I have been working very closely with some of the students. I am like his right hand man. Our graduates have gone into so many different areas. Some of them have full-time jobs in the private sector. We have other veterans who are working towards a college education. As a counselor, I try to advise them and make sure they use the skills they've learned to their full potential."

Whiten hopes the Veterans Upward Bound will continue to grow each year. "Penn has been awarded a one-year grant," Fred said. "That's renewable for up to three years. We have provided 120 veterans with the proper skills to get themselves on the right track. We've had a lot of success over the past year and we will have enough funds in the future. We would like to see the program improve each year."

Whiten knows the veterans' problems. He has been there. ■

Hunt is a reporter for the Philadelphia Tribune.

CLAIMS

AIR FORCE

(Including Army air units prior to 1947)

Chanute (Ill.) AFB (1952)—Seeking anyone who can verify service; was flight mechanic at Chanute.—Jimmy C. Carter, c/o Wayne County Veterans Service Officer, 510 Pearl, Wayne, NE 68787.

325th Service Grp., HQ & HQ Sqdn, APO 634—Seeking anyone who knew me in England, Belgium or France; need to know base or hospital; I was badly burned while attached to the fire department.—Pfc Clarence R. Deaver, 720 W 8th St., Littlefield, TX 79339.

ALL BRANCHES

90th Div. Ex-POW (France, April 1945)—Seeking affidavit from black baker in a camp for returning POWs who remembers me trading a Belgium revolver for a loaf of bread; keep revolver.—Harry A. Kreigh, POB 32, Smyrna, DE 19977

ARMY

433d AA AW Bn., Btry. D—Seeking battery roster which includes home addresses.—Hubert L. Phillips, POB 233, Waynesboro, TN 38485.

1st Cav. Div., 5th Rgt., 3d Bn., Co. K (Sept. 6, 1951)—Seeking anyone in unit on this date; also 2nd Lt. Walter M. Hill.—John Van Ieperen, 108 7th St., Lynden, WA 98264.

1st Cav. Div., 227th AHB, Co. A (Lai Khe, Vietnam, Dec. 1968-Dec. 1969)—Seeking Goff (St. Louis) and Konkel (Escanaba, Mich.), door gunners on helicopter; anyone else serving with me.—Ronald R. Lazenby, 251 Lilac Dr., Monroeville, PA 15146.

23d Gen. Hosp. (France, March-April 1945)—Seeking names of medical personnel at unit.—J.B Morgan, Rt. 12 Box 881, Hattiesburg, MS 39401.

613th Engr. Maint. Co. (Ft. Richardson, Alaska, Oct. 1950)—Seeking anyone remembering me going for treatment for severely frostbitten feet during Korean maneuvers; stationed in the kitchen barracks with Ross, Tullis, Gibson, Pursell, Alvarez, Vanover, Wallace, Sgts. Kelly and Ross.—Larry Valek, 2202 Silver St., Anderson, IN 46012.

MARS Task Force, 124th Cav., Trp L, 475th Inf. (Hosi, Burma, Feb. 1945) & 234th Gen. Hosp. (Assam & Chabwa, India, Aug. 1945)—Seeking witnesses to confirm absence from squad after being hit with artillery shell and as patient in hospital.—Thomas J. Hart, 709 E Elm St., West Frankfort, IL 62896

860th Engr. Avn. Bn., H&S Co. (1943-45)—Seeking colonel, Capt. Reich, 1st Sgts. Hicks and Danzero, Cpl. Matchie, Pvts. Meehan, Burpee, Halftrack, others.—Pvt Henry Riolo, 2219 E Lake Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90031.

17th Abn. Div. (Belgian Bulge, Jan. 15, 1945)—Seeking anyone who remembers Anthony J. Moda when he was wounded.—William M. Anton, 29 River Dr., Ilion, NY 13357.

24th Inf. Div., 19th Rgt., 3d Bn., HQ Co. (Korea, 1953-54)—Seeking anyone who remembers my bad night sweats, colds, chest pains, frozen feet; seeking Cpl. Cook (medic), 1st Sgt. Erb (N.Y.), SFC Wingfield (Ore.), A.J. Secondo (Conn.), Kramer (Iowa), anyone else who knew me.—Pfc Henry G. Upfold, Jr., POB 5087, Kingsville, TX 78363.

45th Div., 179th Inf., Co. A (Germany, Jan. 1945)—Seeking anyone who remembers my being captured; esp. Pfc Walter Sileck of Co. B.—Pfc Garland E Ward, 3917 Prairie Lane, Del City, OK 73115.

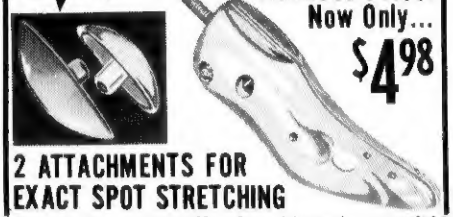
End the pain of CRAMPED feet!

PROFESSIONAL SHOE STRETCHER

FREE

S–T–R–E–T–C–H TIGHT SHOES... STOP PAINFUL CORNS & BUNIONS!

Reduced Price! Now Only... $4.98



2 ATTACHMENTS FOR EXACT SPOT STRETCHING

Why torture yourself? Get blessed, **overnight relief** the professional way. Enjoy a custom fit that will have your aching feet dancing for joy! Gently stretches and widens tight shoes. **Crafted from Genuine HARDWOODS** with an **E-Z Twist METAL HANDLE.** Comes with **2 NYLON SPOT RELIEVERS** . . . relieves pressure on bunions and corns. Pays for itself . . . no more trips to shoemaker. Takes the **"ouch"** out of breaking in new shoes. Don't suffer another day! **SPECIFY SIZE AND SEX WHEN ORDERING.**

Mens Regular (7D - 11A) **Mens Large (10B - 14D)**
Ladies Regular (5B - 8A) **Ladies Large (8B - 11A)**

No. 3066—Professional Shoe Stretcher $4.98
SPECIAL: 2 for $8.98

Send Order To: FOSTER-TRENT, INC., DEPT 567NF
2345 BOSTON POST RD., LARCHMONT, N.Y. 10538
Include $1.65 **Postage & Handling.**

Henry Field's

FREE CATALOG

Seed & Nursery Co., Shenandoah, IA 51602

Red Bird TOMATO

Red Bird "Valiant" Tomato is a midseason producer with small vines and big fruits—red as cardinals! It's mild-flavored and firm. Very vigorous. Does well in both the North and the South.

LARGE PKT. ONLY **10¢**

Clip & Mail Today

You'll also get a copy of our big spring catalog!

HENRY FIELD'S, Dept. 82,
1678 Oak St., Shenandoah, IA 51602

Yes, I've enclosed my dime. Please send a packet of Red Bird Tomato seeds and your spring catalog!

Name _____
Street _____ Rt ____ Box ____
City _____
State _____ ZIP _____

CLIP THIS COUPON OR USE ANY PIECE OF PAPER.

SINCE 1892

CLAIMS

1058th Engr., HQ Co. (Remagen, Germany, WW II)—Seeking anyone who remembers collapse of Ludendorff Bridge.—Frank J. Sprock, 1230 E 105th St., Brooklyn, NY 11236.

108th Inf. Rgt., 3d Bn., Co. I or L (July-August 1945)—Seeking information on ship's name, possibly U.S.S St. Mary, off Leyte; was preparing for invasion of Japan; later transported troops to Korea; was treaterd for injuries; need verification of ship's name, medical records of treatment and names of personnel who may know of case.—T-5 Harold E. Logan, c/o Robert J. Toth, Stark County Soldiers Relief and Service Center, County Office Bldg., 209 West Tuscaraws St., Canton, OH 44702.

NAVY

USS Soley (DD707) Supply Div. (Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1960) & NAS Pax. River, Hosp. Dietary (1971)—Seeking D.J. Grainer or others who remember my falling down ladder aboard ship; anyone who remembes my being treated at naval hospital.—Arthur H. Watson, Rt. 1 Box 330E, Hedgeville, WV 25427.

USS Holland (AS3) (Guam, VJ Day)—Seeking men from 8th Div. on work party.—Sherman (Sam) Busse, Rt. 4 Box 53, Montello, WI 63949.

USS LST 568 (WW II)—Seeking John Walsh (Astoria, N.Y.) and Artie Stiegler (Flushing, N.Y.)—Charles E. Wehrheim, 137 Sandpebble Circle, Port Orange, FL 32019.

33d NCB (Russell Islands & Banika, 1943)—Seeking B.J. Dood (Texas), Stanley E. Kosioski (Newton, Pa.), Dr. Rand, who examined me.—S1/c Jewel V. Knight, Rt. 1, Bokchito, OK 74726.

USS Neches (AO47) (Japan, Feb. 24, 1951-Oct. 31, 1952)—Seeking anyone who remembers my nervous condition after explosion at sea in ave gas tank, under cargo tank; attack in Japan where I was treated by corpsman.—Irvin R. Pratt, 2755 40th SE, Paris, TX 75460.

USS Devastator (AM318)—Seeking E.S. Wendt, EM3/c; W.C. Heins, EMM3/c; R.T. Ortegren, EM3/c; H.I. Forgey, EM1/c.—Otis D. Jarvis, 801 Glenmore Ave., New Port Richey, FL 35552.

Armed Guard Unit (Okinawa, 1945) & SS Alcoa Puritan (1944)—Seeking anyone who remembers when I broke my foot and had to put my hammock under the 3.50 bow gun tub; also anyone who served with me under 1st Lt. Thier.—Grover C. Clevenger, POB 401, Lebanon, OK 73440.

USS John Land (PA167) Cook Boat Div. (Iwo Jima, Feb. 1945) & USS Gearing (DD710) (1946)—Seeking anyone aboard Land who remembers my leaving ship for home or recalls entries made in ship's log on that day; aboard Gearing, anyone who remembers explosion on LCM engineroom and firefighter crew which pulled me out of the fire, boatswainmate who entered it into ship's log or corpsman who treated me.—Richard C. Cook, POB 3, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117.

USS Biscayne (Jan. 10, 1942-May 1942)—Seeking anyone with knowledge about asbestos exposure while scraping bulkheads and pipes to get ship ready for sea duty.—Albert G. Baldino, RR 1 Box 2, Cotter, AR 72626.

MARINES

SS Matthew Thornton (Sept. 12 1942-Nov. 15, 1942)—Seeking Capt. Guy Richards, Cpl. Ivy Sanders, others who may remember my back injury incurred after lifting 55-gal. drums of aviation gasoline.—Robert E. Laws, 4401 S Maple Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74011.

1st FSR/FLC (Camp Monohan, Da Nang, Vietnam, 1968-69)—Seeking Clifford Clark, Joe Tadeo (Knuckles), Frank Robinson, anyone remembering my health problems.—Gene McGregor, 132 N Park Dr., Levittown, PA 19054.

3d Def. Bn. (Marstorton, N.Z., 1943)—Seeking any member who remembers serious spinal injury caused by a fall in New Zealand after Tulagi Guadalcanal campaign.—Arthur B. Harkin, 3508 8th Ave. #21, Tuscon, AZ 85713.

1st Marine Div., 1st Mtr. Transport Bn., 1st Auto Maint. Co. (Korea, 1951-52)—Seeking anyone who can verify when I fell in foxhole while on guard duty; food was brought to me while confined to tent with back injury; esp. Cpls. Jim Hayes (Texas), Lonnie Grooms (N.C.), Benjie and Pfc Riskie.—Glenn W. Turnboo, 4581 Justin Ave., Diamond Springs, CA 95619.

892d HM Ord. (Okinawa, 1945)—Seeking anyone who remembers Marine 2nd Lt. who pulled shrapnel from my face.—Salvatore Salzillo, 228 Chasco St., Port Richey, FL 33568.

REUNIONS

All requests for reunion announcements must arrive in the VFW Magazine offices no later than six months prior to the month in which the reunion is to be held to insure timely inclusion in this column. Reunion announcement forms can be obtained by writing VFW Magazine, Reunions Editor, 34th & Broadway, Kansas City, MO 64111. This cost-free service to members is limited to a first-come first-published basis one time per year.

AIR FORCE
(Including Army air units prior to 1947)

☐February

450th Bomb. Grp.—15-17, Phoenix—Ed Reynolds, 2126 W Luke Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85015.

☐May

11th & 482d Svc. Sqdns., HQ Sqdn. & 8th Svc. Grp. (WW II)—3-5, Lancaster, Pa.—John Heckler, 76 E Harbor Dr., Teaticket, MA 02536.

47th/479th Svc. Sqdn. (formerly 28th Svc. Sqdn.)—3-5, Arlington, Texas—Ben Dickson, 2606 Oak Cliff Lane, Arlington, TX 76012.

127th Observationn Sqdn. 127th Liaison Sqdn. (Wichita, India & Okinawa)—2-4, Wichita—J.A. Nilles, 445 S 4th, Colwich, KS 67030.

Foster Field AFB (Victoria, Texas, 1940's—50's) —31-June 2—POB 12, Telferner, TX 77988.

☐June

80th Ftr. Sqdn.—20-23, Colorado Springs—Don McGee, 135 Clare Rd., Mansfield, OH 44906.

☐July

338th Bomb. Grp. (H) Assn.—26-28, Seattle—Ed Huntzinger, 1925 SE 37th St., Cape Coral, FL 33904.

830th Air Police Grp. (Selfridge AFB, Mich., 1940-43)—Peoria—Jake Tennant, 814 E Hines Ave., Peoria Heights, IL 61614.

B-17 Vets (WW II)—25-28, Seattle—B-17 Composite Wing, POB 326, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

☐September

313th Trp. Carrier Sqdn., 349th Trp. Carrier Grp. (WW II)—Akron—Earl Cunningham, 2509 Maitland Ave., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223.

☐October

1942-43 BTC (Atlantic City, N.J.)—Atlantic City—John Vavrek, 718 Pittsburgh-McKeesport Blvd., Dravosburg, PA 15034.

ALL BRANCHES

☐December

Pearl Harbor Survivors Assn.—5-9, Grossingers, N.Y.—Charles Toohey, 16 Roseen Ave., Weymouth, MA 02188.

USS Arizona Memorial Service—9, Tuscon—Mario Sivilli, 450 S Rosemont Blvd., Tuscon, AZ 85711.

☐March

S.S. Kenmar Armed Guards—New York—Ted Heumann, 1577 Paterson Pland Rd., Secaucus, NJ 07094.

☐June

294th JASCO (WW II)—6-10, Muskogee, Okla.—Bob Felts, Rt. 2 Box 66, Wagoner, OK 74467.

Los Alamos, N.M.—14-16, Los Alamos—Reunion, POB 700, Los Alamos, NM 87544.

☐August

Tongue Point (1939-62)—9-11—Smokey Stover, 1409 11th St., Astoria, OR 97103.

ARMY

☐December

251st CA (AA) Rgt. (Pearl Harbor)—1, San Diego—George Helling, 1852 Linbrook Dr., San Diego, CA.

☐January

151st Engrs., Cos. E & F—25-26, Florence, Ala.—E.W. Crow, Rt. 13 Box 18, Florence, AL 35630.

☐April

10th Armd. Inf. Bn., Co. A (France, 1944)—25-26, Louisville—Joesph Kmetz, 718 Jane St., Plum, PA 15239.

43d Engrs. (GS), Co. F—19-21, Kansas City, Mo.—James Patrick, 10901 Westgate, Dr., Overland Park, KS 66210.

894th TD Bn.—11-14, Orlando—Verne Clark, 4408 Stilwell Ct., New Port Richey, FL 33552.

☐May

43d Inf. Div., 43d Tank Co., Special Troops—Niantic, Conn.—William Christie, Johnson Rd., Columbia, CT 06237.

43d Inf. Div., 102d Inf. Rgt., Tank Co.—Niantic, Conn.—Fergus Mooney, 42 Featherbed Lane, Branford, CT 06405.

43d Inf. Div., 143d Tank Bn., H&S Co.—Niantic, Conn.—Joseph Beninato, 22 Marshall Rd., Enfield, CT 06082.

43d Inf. Div., 143d Tank Bn., Co. A—Niantic, Conn.—John Apuzzo, 211 Nicoll St., New Haven, CT 06511.

43d Inf. Div., 143d Tank Bn., Co. B—Niantic, Conn.—John Rychlovsky, 158 Deepwood Dr., Amston, CT 06231.

43d Inf. Div., 143d Tank Bn., Co. C—Niantic, Conn.—Ray Weckworth, 185 Swain Ave., Meriden, CT 06450.

43d Inf. Div., 169th Inf. Rgt., Cannon Co.—Niantic, Conn.—Austin Page, 186 Standish St., Hartford, CT 06114.

43d Inf. Div., 169th Inf. Rgt., Tank Co.—Niantic, Conn.—Alton Morell, 19 Ferncrest Dr., East Hartford, CT 06118.

97th Div., 386th Inf., Co. E—Las Vegas—Harry Emerson, 400 N Lake Pk. Y6E, Hobart, IN 46342.

191st Tank Bn. (L), Co. D—Niantic, Conn.—Walter Coons, 49 Judson Ave., East Hartford, CT 06118.

405th Inf. Rgt.—23-25, Dearborn, Mich.—Robert Day, 802 Court St., Saginaw, MI 48620.

☐June

14th Field Hosp.—Minneapolis—Emil Peterson, 20452 Iberia W 104, Lakeville, MN 55044.

16th FA Observation Bn.—28, Ft. Mitchell, Ky.—16th FOB, POB 767, Charleston, WV 25323.

173d Abn. Bde. (Sep) (Vietnam, June 1965-June 1966) & 1st Bn., Royal Australian Regiment Group—9, Sydney, Australia—1 RAR (Gp) Reunion Committee, HQ Training Command, POB 39, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010, Australia.

☐July

12th FOB (WW II)—Lester Kamp, 10967 Wildrose Ct., Boise, ID 83704.

31st & 241st Engr. (C) Bns. (WW II)—12-14, Little Falls, N.Y.—Gerald Stone, 507 Lake St., Herkimer, NY 13350.

807th TD Bn.—2-4, Portland, Ore.—Harold Trembel, RFD 1 Box 262, Ontario, OR 97914.

☐September

12th Armd. Div. Assn.—Orlando—Warren Maue, 4320 Germantown-Liberty Rd., Germantown, OH 45327.

648th TD Bn.—26-29, Fond du Lac, Wis.—Max Magyar, Rt. 5, Fond du Lac, WI 54935.

3853d QM GS Co. (formerly Co. A, 205th QM Bn.) (WW II)—26-28, Nashville—J.R. Hackney, 718 Powers Ave., Nashville, TN 37206.

☐October

80th Gen. Hosp. (WW II)—4-6, Sanford, N.C.—George Allred, POB 235, Bonlee, NC 27213.

233d Engr.—11-13, Green Bay—Edwin Nevell, 601 Terraview Dr., Green Bay, WI 54301.

307th Inf. Vets Society—18-20, King of Prussia, Pa.—Jerry Hanifin, 31 Moore St., New Hyde Park, NY 11040.

MARINES

☐March

Marine Barracks, Yokosuka, Japan (Sept. 1945- April 1952)—6-8, Camp Pendleton, Calif.—Alan Cole, 354 Zada Lane, Vista, CA 92083.

☐July

5th Marine Div. Assn.—31-Aug. 3, Uniondale, N.Y.—James Rossi, 7 Ascan St., Valley Stream, NY 11580.

NAVY

☐February

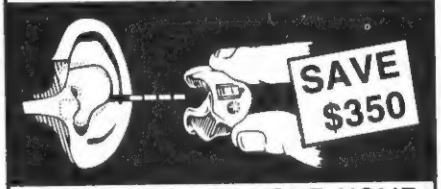
USS Crane (DD109)—1-3, San Diego—Jack Wagner, 1563 Oleander Ave., Chula Vista, CA 92011.

☐March

USS John D. Henley (DD553)—22-24, Atlanta—William Nierman, 635 Lake Rd., Covington, GA 30209.

"MAGNIFICENT"
IN-THE-EAR AID

Custom-built for *your* hearing loss and the shape of *your* ear. Fits comfortably, inconspicuously and securely within your ear. No tubes, cords or wires. Just right for you if you hear but don't understand some words. Call or write for FREE Literature.



30 DAY TRIAL IN YOUR HOME
CALL TOLL FREE 1/800/323-1212
Also, fine quality Body Aids, $99.50 up. Behind-the-Ear Aids. No salesman will visit.
LLOYD, Dept. AVE, 128 Kishwaukee St., Rockford, IL 61104

Remember family or friends with Special Occasion, Get Well or Memorial cards.

WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE
American Heart Association

glide upstairs on a STAIR-GLIDE® stairlift

No more problems with stairs. Just sit on a stairlift, press the button and glide up and down in complete safety. Saves changing your house around or moving. Easily installed to fit curved or straight stairs. No mess. Folds back—gets in nobody's way. Find out all the details. Fill in the coupon below and mail to us.

Send me free details of your push-button stairlift quickly.

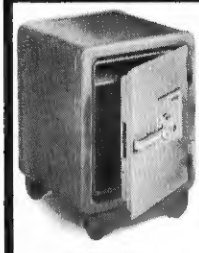
AMERICAN STAIR-GLIDE CORPORATION

Name_____
Address_____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Tel. _____

AMERICAN STAIR-GLIDE CORPORATION
Dept. VF-1284, 4001 E. 138th St., P.O. Box B
Grandview, MO 64030 Tel. 816-763-3100

I Buy For Cash
Pre-war, Post-war, Certain Models — Leica, Nikon, Canon, Zeiss-Contax, Rollei. Free Estimate.
Charles F. Vaughan
223 Barker Road #203
Michigan City, IN 46360
219-874-2564

FREE CATALOG
STARK BRO'S NURSERIES newest catalog featuring hundreds of varieties of fruit, nut and shade trees, berries, grapes, roses & more! Many exclusive varieties sold only by Stark Bro's. Quality products since 1816. Send for yours today!
Stark Bro's, Dept. D4861E, Louisiana, MO 63353

PROTECT YOUR VALUABLES AND IMPORTANT PAPERS!

MODEL S-8
A Sentry Safe for your home is "peace of mind" for you! And think of the convenience! It's like having a 24-hour safe-deposit box right at home!
- 200 pounds of protection
- Burglar-resistant
- Fire-resistant
- U.L. Listed
- Free delivery, continental U.S.
- Tax deductible
- Low, low prices!
- FURNITURE CABINETS available for "concealed" protection

sentry WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG!
Value-tique Inc.
Dept. M-606 • P.O. Box 67 • Leonia, N.J. 07605

GENUINE ALIGATOR BELTS
Made in the U.S.A. - Black or Brown
Sz. 30-42 1" Width $75 each Sz. 30-42 1¼" Width $85 each
Extra Sz. 44-52 available. Add $20.00
For further information, call/write
EXOTIC ENTERPRISE - P.O. BOX 2103, Metairie, LA. 70004 (504) 833-5971
ALLOW 3-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY
☐ CHECK ENCLOSED ☐ MASTER CARD ☐ VISA ☐ MONEY ORDER
CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXPIRES ___/___ MO YEAR

MARKET PLACE
For ad rates–Classified, 676 St. Clair, Chicago 60611

OF INTEREST TO ALL
★ **HOW TO WRITE TO YOUR GRANDCHILD.** For Ten Exercises of Love, mail $10.00 to Jack Dukes, 2853 N. Griggs, Roseville, MN 55113. Money Back Guarantee.
WIN MILLIONS in Canadian Lotteries. Free details plus Free Ticket Offer. Lucky Buck (VFM), Box 171, Station W, Toronto, Canada M6M 4Z2.
KWIKNOT faster tie tying send $2.00. Harry Coates, 301 N. Beauregard, Alexandria, VA 22312.
★ **COLLECTION OF LOW CHOLESTEROL** modified low fat recipes. $7.95. Favorite Recipes, Box 868, McCloud, OK 74851.

HELP WANTED
★ **OVERSEAS, U.S. JOBS AVAILABLE. UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES.** Write for application. Employers, Box 387-X, Orange Park, FL 32067.

MONEY MAKING OPPORTUNITIES
$2000 WEEKLY with amazing New Moneymaking Book. Learn successful easy Home Businesses. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Send $5.50. AB, Box 818Q, Montross, VA 22520.
UNLIMITED HOME INCOME! Pioneer Foods, Box 986(V), Tualatin, OR 97062.

HANDICRAFTS—HOBBIES
COLLECTING MILITARY MEDALS? List 50¢. Vernon, Box 1387VFW, Baldwin, NY 11510-1387.

LOANS/INFORMATION
$LOANSS ON SIGNATURE TO $100,000! Most purposes. Write: ELITE, Box 206—QQ, East Rockaway, NY 11518.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS
★ **YOUR CLASSIFIED AD HERE** reaches Millions of your Prospects. Free Folder. Phone 312-337-3090 or write: Classified, Inc., VFW-12, 676 St. Clair, Chicago, IL 60611.

LOST YOUR CREDIT?
Can't Qualify?
Complete report tells how to obtain Master, Visa, American Express— even with a bad credit reference.
Results Guaranteed!
Send $5.00 to: (Cash, Check, M.O.)
Arthur Ellison (VFW Member)
P.O. Box 1166, Hallandale, FL 33009

Reunion
USS LINDENWALD
LSD-6 (1950-53 Norfolk, VA.)
Arctic, Cuba & Med Cruises
Reunion Contact:
Frank A. Maples (2nd Div)
11025 Roane Drive
Knoxville, TN 37922
Phone 615-577-3988
Eat-A-Snax Vending Inc.

GLORIFICATION NOT OF WAR, BUT OF THE WARRIOR ★
NO ADDITIONAL CHARGES!! PREPAID & INSURED TO YOU
Full color, 11" x 17" photograhic prints on fine quality paper for veterans, collectors, and military historians. Each edition features the authentic small arms and contemporary accouterments issued to United States Armed Forces during the various periods of our history.
These tastefully rendered prints make novel gifts and unique conversation pieces that you'll be proud to display in your office or home.
Order No.:
V-M1 M1 WW2
V-M1K M1 Korea
V-M14VN M14 Vietnam
V-M16VN M16 Vietnam
V-M16USA M16 Army
V-M16MC M16 USMC
V-M1NM M1 N. Mtch.
V-M14NM M14 N. Mtch.

U.S. RIFLE, CALIBER .30, M1
All prints @ $12.95 ea., ppd. USA; framed prints w/glass (shown) @ $35.00 ea., ppd. USA. Prompt shipment. 10 day return privilege for full refund. Ky. residents add sales tax. Mastercard, VISA, Cashier's Check, M.O. (Personal checks must clear.)
HERITAGE ARMS • P. O. Box 1664 • Owensboro, Ky. 42302 • Ph. (502) 683-1222

REUNIONS

☐May

46th NCB—16-19, Hot Springs, Ark.—W.A. DeMaine, 2107 S Main, Stuttgart, AR 72160.

USS Chickaskia (AO54)—17-19, Cape Cod—Lee Jacobs, 501 Linden Ave., Frederick, MD 21701.

USS Haven (AH12)—9-11, Reno—Joe Messina, 1680 Oak Vista Ave., Chico, CA 95926.

USS Longshaw (DD559)—Kansas City, Mo.-Leo Scott, 512 Woodlawn, Salina, KS 67401.

USS Trenton (CL11)—7-9, Gatlinburg, Tenn.-T.C. Thompson, Rt. 1 Box 53, Louisville, KY 37777.

☐June

136th NCB—18-22, Lexington, Ky.—Ralph Harrison, 837 Millwood Rd., Broken Arrow, OK 74011.

DESRON 8: USS Wainwright (DD419), USS Buck (DD420), USS Mayrant (DD402), USS Trippe (DD403), USS Rhind (DD404), USS Rowan (DD405) & USS Bristol (DD453)—13-16, Bloomington, Ind.—Lee Craig, 520 Slack Dr., Anderson, IN 46013.

USS Dogfish (SS350)—New London, Conn.—Tom Striffler, POB 158, Ledyard, CT 06339.

USS Minneapolis (CA36)—Minneapolis—Donald Bovill, 2804 Gene Lane, Arlington, TX 76010.

USS Woolsey (DD437)—Cincinnati—Tony Torres, POB 9291, Whittier, CA 90608.

☐July

USS Belle Grove (LSD2)—19-20, Milwaukee-Joe Bledsoe, 194 Pinegrove Dr., Bellbrook, OH 45305.

USS Benner (DD807)—Bethelem, Pa.—Charles Albert, 122 8th St., Catasauqua, PA 18032.

USS Pennsylvania—19-21. Memphis—Leon Cooper, 10905 Old Harbor Rd., Ft. Smith, AR 72903.

USS Peterson (DE152)—12-14, Indianapolis-Russell Jensen, 1324 Stanley Rd., Plainfield, IN 46168.

☐August

USS Duluth (LPD6) & USS Vesuvius (AE15)-8-12, Chicago—Harold Clyman, 213 Chicory Ct., Buffalo Grove, IL 60090.

USS Mansfield (DD728)—1-3, Greenville, S.C.-Seamester, 104 Lisa Lane, Greenville, NC 27834.

USS Thomas J. Gary (DE326/DER326)—5-9, Orlando—Harry Killen, Jr., RD 7 Box 99, Washington, PA 15301.

USS Wadsworth (DD516)—7-10, Williamsburg, Va.—Richard Lowe, RR 2 Box 200, St. Elmo, IL 62458.

☐September

77th NCB—5-8, Asheville, N.C.—Joe Fish, Rt. 2 Box 356A, Claremont, NC 28610.

USS Boise (CL47)—18-22, Boston—John Macomber, 10 Park Ave., Latham, NY 12110.

USS Borie (DD215)—New Jersey—Bob Manning, 310 W Siesta Ave., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

USS Harris (AP2)—Charleston, S.C.—Bob Griffith, 7 Golf Dr., Georgetown, SC 29440.

VC-4—12-15, Valley Forge, Pa.—Ed Oscar, POB 431, Kimberton, PA 19442.

☐October

Presidential Yachts, White House Staff (Camp Shangri-La, 1945-53)—9-11, Independence, Mo.—Hue Hamilton, RFD 3 Box 118, Manhattan, KS 66502.

USS New York (BB34) (1916-46)—Nashville—Glenn Wilkins, 706 Westchester Dr., Madison, TN 37115.

"Well, let's get busy with the thank you cards."

Commitment

A pig and a hen were having a philosophical discussion on ham and eggs. The pig said to the hen—"To you it's a donation—to me it's a commitment."

—*Quote.*

Well-Read Reds

Two American students returning from the Soviet Union were delayed at customs while Russian officials confiscated printed matter, including a recent issue of *Playboy*. The students, who understood Russian, reported that the official-sounding conversation between the two officials went something like this: "Do we have this issue?" "Let me see...Yes, we have. We can give it back to them."

—*Chicago Tribune*

Did you hear about the termites that ate a liquor cabinet and got cirrhosis of the sliver?

—*Shelby Friedman*

Namedropping Won't Work

A traffic cop who stopped a young lady said, "Your driver's license says you must wear glasses at all times. Where are they?"

The young woman said, "But I have contacts."

The officer said, "I don't care who you know. I'm giving you a ticket anyway."

—*Quote*

Thrills of Old

Husband: "I wonder what happened to the old-fashioned girls who fainted when a man kissed them?"

Wife: "Well, I'd like to know what happened to the old-fashioned men who made them faint in the first place."

—*Quote*

Taxes are just like golf—you drive your heart out for the green and end up in the hole.

—*Quote*

Guaranteed Safety

A man was very nervous about his first flight until an airline executive reassured him: "Look at it this way. If it wasn't safe, would we let you use a credit card?"

—*Shelby Friedman*

I've met a few people in my time who were enthusiastic about hard work. It was just my luck that all of them happened to be men I was working for at the time.

—*Bill Gold*

Fellow down the block says by the time you get the summer vacation paid for, it's time to start worrying about Christmas.

—*Quote.*

"Stop complaining! At least we don't have to chase all over the jungle for a meal."